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RESCUE EFFORTS ON

'40 workers trapped in Uttarkashi tunnel safe'

NEWS » PAGE 12

DAY AFTER DEEPAVALI

Air quality worsens in Indian cities

NEWS » PAGE 14

FRESH INFLUX

Myanmar nationals flee battle, enter Mizoram

NEWS » PAGE 12

REFORMING ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Need to enhance representation in Parliament

On proportionality and delimitation

EDITORIAL » PAGE 10

ICC HALL OF FAME

Edulji, Aravinda and Sehwag inducted

SPORT » PAGE 18

Ex-PM Cameron in, Suella Braverman out in U.K. Cabinet rejig

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

David Cameron

Returning from Deepavali celebrations in his hometown of Southampton, U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak kicked off the week by reshuffling his Cabinet on Monday morning, sacking controversial Home Secretary Suella Braverman and resurrecting the political career of former U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron, whom he appointed Foreign Secretary. Former (outgoing) Foreign Secretary James Cleverly was appointed Home Secretary.

Ms. Braverman's history of provocative statements, including her latest allegations of bias in the Metropolitan Police over their handling of pro-Palestinian protests, which she referred to as "hate marches", had increased pressure on Mr. Sunak to fire her.

Monday's moves, which were reminiscent of the political chaos last year, when the country saw three Prime Ministers in the span of a few months, continued well into the afternoon with Tory divisions playing out live on media as appointments and departures continued to be announced.

Mr. Cameron was made 'Lord Cameron', a life peer (member of the House of Lords) on Monday.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Retail inflation eases to a four-month low of 4.87% in October

Vegetable price rise decelerates to 2.7%; overall consumer food price inflation remains unchanged; inflation faced by rural consumers is 5.1%

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

India's retail inflation pace eased to a four-month low of 4.87% in October from a tad over 5% in September, with the rise in vegetables prices easing to 2.7% from 3.4%, though overall consumer food price inflation remained virtually unchanged at 6.6%.

While base effects from last October, when retail prices surged 6.8%, helped cool the headline inflation rate, some deceleration was also seen in prices of non-food items such as services, clothing and footwear as well as fuel and light.

Aided by the LPG cylinder price cuts, fuel and light costs dropped 0.4% from last October's levels.

Rural, urban inflation

Inflation faced by rural consumers eased from 5.33% in September to 5.1%, but urban households saw a fractional increase in inflation at 4.65%. On a month-on-month basis, consumer prices were up 0.65%, while food prices were up 1.06%, with urban food prices rising 1.14%.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Inflation eases

India's retail inflation eased to to a four-month low of 4.87% in October from 5.02% in September

Charred remains: Rescue efforts under way at the site of a blaze at Bazaar Guard in Hyderabad on Monday. G. RAMAKRISHNA

Nine dead in a fire in Hyderabad building

Naveen Kumar
HYDERABAD

Nine people were killed in a massive fire in a four-storey residential building at Nampally in Hyderabad on Monday morning. Fire Department officials suspect that sparks from bursting of firecrackers could have led to the fire.

Fire and rescue services personnel were pressed into service after a distress call was received at the fire control room at 9.34 a.m., stating that sparks were coming from the stilt level of Balaji Residence in the Bazaar Guard area, which has 16 flats.

"The firefighters rescued 21 persons in the building. Three were found unconscious and one had burns. Preliminary probe revealed that the local people were bursting crackers till 2 a.m. on Monday," said Y. Nagi Reddy, Director-General of Telangana State Fire Department.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

NEARBY

KEA restricts all forms of head cover in exams

BENGALURU
The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has announced a dress code for the recruitment exams of various boards and corporations to be held on November 18 and 19 across the State and stated that wearing "any garment or cap that covers head, mouth or ears" will not be allowed in the exam hall. » Page 6

THE HINDU
Greets its readers on the occasion of
Balipadyami.
There will be no issue of THE HINDU dated November 15, 2023 as Balipadyami is a holiday.
Readers can access the Online edition at
www.thehindu.com

EDUCATIONPLUS » PAGE 3

The short ball — Shreyas Iyer's nemesis no more

It may feel strange to mention Shreyas, short-pitched, and pull in the same sentence, but the former got him to his first World Cup century while the latter turned out to be his most productive shot in the match against the Netherlands

K. MURALI KUMAR

Ayan Acharya

Shreyas Iyer got his first World Cup century on Sunday, off 84 balls, against the Netherlands at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. This hundred, his fourth in the format, came on the back of his 82 against Sri Lanka and 77 versus South Africa.

Shreyas reached the landmark with a single off a short ball, and his most productive shot of the evening was the pull shot. It may feel strange to mention Shreyas, short-pitched, and pull in the same sentence in a piece extolling his innings.

After all, Shreyas's problem with the short ball has been well documented. The issue, it seemed, was that he didn't have a defensive option against it, so he either went for an unconvincing pull or hopped awkwardly to defend instead of just swaying out of the line.

However, the story has been different this ODI World Cup. Trusted by captain Rohit Sharma and coach Rahul Dravid to deliver as India's No. 4, Shreyas has been the team's designated middle-order aggressor, whose job has been to take risks against specific bowlers.

"When you say it's a problem for me, what do you mean?" Shreyas had asked at the post-match press conference after the win against Sri Lanka that sealed India's place in the semifinals. "Have you seen how many pull shots I've scored, especially those that have gone for four?"

Shreyas, though, didn't get off to the brightest of starts in this tournament, having been dismissed for a duck in the campaign opener against Australia in Chennai.

He was, in fact, out to the short ball against New Zealand and England. But there has since been an uptick in form for the Mumbai right-hander, thanks in part to his "temperament," as Dravid pointed out on the eve of the Netherlands game.

Shreyas has worked closely with Dravid since 2015 when the latter was with the Delhi Daredevils (now Delhi Capitals) as mentor. The association extended to the India A setup thereafter.

"Everyone will have areas that they need to work on and need to improve. There's no complete batsman who can say that I know everything or that I'm very good at everything," Dravid said.

"You're always going to have areas to improve. But at the end of the day, you have to be judged by the results you produce. And the runs you score and when you score them. And I think with Shreyas, [that's] one of the things that does stand out," he added.

From the time he came to bat against the Dutch, Shreyas was given a fair share of back-of-a-length deliveries. But it was no problem for him on a slightly easy-paced wicket.

The challenge for the opposition is that once Shreyas is set, you have to wait for him to manufacture a dismissal. If not the short ball, the next best way to get him out is when he steps out to a spinner and misses, or when he has scored more than a hundred and is looking to inflict more damage. Unfortunately for the Netherlands, none of the above transpired.

Brutal response

The pacers resorted to the slower balls, which became predictable after a point and were dealt with brutally. When it was on his legs, Shreyas flicked it or just worked it around to rotate the strike.

He may not be the best player of the short ball, but you will not find Shreyas lacking in willingness to strive harder.

That quality in a flamboyant batter such as him is rare to find.

"My last few innings have given me a lot of confidence. It wasn't an easy wicket to start on, so I knew I had to make the most of getting a good start," Shreyas said after the win against the Netherlands.

Shreyas had recently argued that since he has played most of his cricket on the high-bounce pitches in Mumbai, he was confident of facing the rising deliveries.

"Coming from Mumbai, especially from Wankhede, the bounce is pretty much even, and it bounces way more than any other pitches. I've played the majority of my games here, so I know how to tackle it. It's just that when I go to hit some shots, you are bound to get out, and sometimes it may work, sometimes it may not.

"And the majority of the time it hasn't worked for me; maybe that's the reason you think it's a problem for me, but in my mind, I know there's no problem," Shreyas had said.

There was evidence that Shreyas had worked on how he played the short stuff. Admittedly, most bouncers by the Netherlands quicks were not the best Shreyas has had to face, but there were signs he had made a conscious attempt to get inside the line and shown enough patience before unfurling an array of pull shots.

On Sunday, as he walked back to the dressing room, unbeaten on 128 off 94 balls, Shreyas would know he had repaid the faith with yet another show of strength. But sterner tests await in the first semifinal against New Zealand in Mumbai on Wednesday.

THE GIST

- Shreyas didn't seem to have a defensive option against the short ball until recently
- He has worked closely with Dravid since 2015 when the latter was with the Delhi Daredevils as mentor. The association extended to the India A setup thereafter
- There has been evidence that Shreyas had worked on how he played the short stuff. There were signs he had made a conscious attempt to get inside the line and shown enough patience before unfurling an array of pull shots

Sinner's red-orange hair, the carrot idea and the Carota Boys' club

Associated Press
TURIN

They've quickly become some of the most recognisable fans in tennis. And what began as a spur of the moment idea between six supporters of Jannik Sinner to dress up as carrots has turned into a fully sponsored globe-trotting enterprise.

After first appearing at the Italian Open in May, the orange-clad 'Carota Boys' quickly picked up support from one of Sinner's sponsors and were sent to cheer for their favourite player at the French Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

Orders for T-shirts featuring the Carota Boys' logo have come in from Brazil, Greece, Switzerland, France and the United States.

"It's all been far beyond anything we could have imagined," said Carota Boys member Enrico Ponsi.

Last week, the group of six boyhood friends were treated to a private meeting with their idol.

"They're almost more famous than I am," Sinner said. "I got the names but I still got a little bit confused because they have these good-looking costumes with the carota.

"It's great to have this dedicated fan club. It's growing, so I'm happy for them," Sinner added. "It's funny."

The carrot idea is partly a tribute to Sinner's red-orange hair and how he ate carrots instead of the more common banana during a changeover at a tournament in Vienna in 2019. "Carota" is the Italian word for carrot.

Closer to their roots

While they've been around the globe recently, this week the carrots are staying closer to their roots.

That's because the ATP Finals in Turin is located just an hour's drive from the Carota Boys' hometown of Revello.

"Whereas at other tournaments we've had to leave after a few days, this one we can attend all week," Ponsi said before Sinner opened the tournament with a convincing win over Stefanos Tsitsipas on Sunday.

So who are the Carota Boys?

They're all in their 20s — only slightly older than the 22-year-old Sinner.

Besides Ponsi, there's Gianluca Bertorello, Alessandro Dedominici, Lorenzo Ferrato, Francesco Gaboardi and Alberto Mondino.

Ponsi and Dedominici are into agriculture, Bertorello is a baker and the others are office-goers.

"We bought the costumes on the Internet," Ponsi said.

Since the Carota Boys made their debut in Rome, Sinner has risen from No. 8 to No. 4 in the rankings — making him the highest-ranked Italian man since Adriano Panatta nearly a half century ago.

But it's not just Sinner's performance that the Carota Boys appreciate. "He's a simple guy like us," Ferrato said. "He's a very humble guy. So we love this aspect of him."

"We appreciate his modesty and his simplicity. He behaves well on the court and he never says anything out of place off the court. He's a very respectful kid," added Ponsi.

Expect to see the Carota Boys out in full force when Sinner takes on top-ranked Novak Djokovic on Tuesday. Other fans have also been getting involved with the orange theme by wearing orange-colored wigs.

"It fills us with pride that others are following our lead," Ponsi said, "We're hoping to color the entire arena orange."

Bursting into the public conscience: The Carota Boys have made a name for themselves all over the world. AP

City sees over 60 cracker injuries; three likely to suffer reduction in vision

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Over 60 cases of cracker-related injuries have been reported in various hospitals during Deepavali festivities starting Sunday. With three bystanders, who are under treatment at the State-run Minto Ophthalmic Hospital, having suffered grievous injuries, doctors said they are likely to suffer significant reduction in vision in one eye.

An 18-year-old male in Srirampura, a bystander who was rushed to Minto hospital on Sunday, after a cracker hit him, has suffered a globe rupture in his right eye. A 10-year-old girl from Dharmavaram and a 22-year-old from Bengaluru, also bystanders, have suffered severe injuries in the right eye resulting in a significant reduction in vision.

G. Nagaraju, director of Minto Hospital, said all the three have undergone surgeries and will need long-term treatment. A total of nine cases were being treated at Minto till Monday evening.

Revati who injured her eye while bursting crackers being treated at Minto Hospital in Bengaluru. SUDHAKARA JAIN

From Bihar

A family whose six-year-old boy suffered a cracker injury in Bihar on November 12 rushed him to Narayana Nethralaya (NN) after getting first-aid at a local clinic there.

Hospital chairman Rohit Shettty said the family was worried that their child may lose vision and immediately took a train to Bengaluru.

"They came with their baggage straight from the railway station to the hospital. Fortunately, the boy has not suffered a grievous injury and we are treating him conservatively," he said.

While NN has received a total of 24 cases this year, Sankara Eye Hospital and Agarwal's Eye Hospital have received 28 and three cases, respectively. Dr. Shetty said 13 of the 24 cases seen at the hospital are children aged below 10. Nearly 90% of the cases are bystanders, he added.

Bystanders

"While the six children, including a three-year-old, have suffered corneal abrasions, two bystanders, including a tailor from Cottonpet, have suffered internal trauma. The tailor, who was walking across the road, was suddenly hit by a cracker that came flying from the air. This resulted in subluxation (partial dislocation) of the lens and hyphema. He has undergone a surgery and we will have to wait and watch," Dr. Shetty said.

Pointing out that the rest have mild injuries, like burns on the eyelid or corneal abrasions (which will not result in any permanent damage to the eye), Dr. Shetty said the government should not permit bursting of crackers in small lanes and bylanes.

"This will help in protecting bystanders from getting injured," he said.

Anand Balasubramaniam, Consultant - Cornea, Cataract and Refractive Services, Sankara Eye Hospital, said the 28 cases under treatment at the hospital include two babies aged 1, three boys (aged 6, 10, and 12), and two girls (aged 4).

None of the injuries are grievous in nature, he said.

Civic body to take up drive against PG accommodations

'Common resources like electricity and water are leveraged to the maximum by PGs without having to pay commercial taxes, garbage cess or any other commercial fees for Bescom or BWSSB'

Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

After its recent raids on pubs and bars checking for licence violations, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahangara Palike (BBMP) now plans to take up a drive to check the licences of paying guest (PG) accommodations in the city.

For years now, citizens of Bengaluru, especially from residential areas, have complained of several issues, including that of safety and security, because of the mushrooming PGs.

For years now, citizens of Bengaluru, especially from residential areas, have complained of several issues, including that of safety and security, because of the mushrooming PGs. FILE PHOTO

Revenue loss

Many have also pointed out that lack of action from various civic agencies against unlicensed PGs have also created revenue loss to the government. "The category under which PGs fall is unclear. In 2014-15 itself, we raised issues about solid waste management from PGs as there was confusion around whether they are bulk generators or not. Eventually an order was issued calling them bulk generators, but there are not many clarifications around that," said a member of Whitefield Rising.

He added there are revenue losses from multiple angles.

Many have pointed out that lack of action against unlicensed PGs have also created revenue loss to the government

"The BBMP does not mandate for them to apply for a trade licence. Since they advertise publicly, they should register under the Shops and Establishments Act and pay a fee for that. Moreover, they pay no commercial tax."

He also said that in a new trend in the last few years in and around Mahadevapura, owners of large land parcels, instead of getting approvals from the BBMP or the BDA under 'A' khata, divide it into smaller parcels and get 'B' khata and build PGs without plan sanction.

"Common resources like electricity and water are leveraged to the maximum by PGs, without having to pay commercial taxes, garbage cess or any other commercial fees for Bescom or BWSSB," he said.

Residents of Koramangala, where there are many PGs catering to students and working professionals, also raised similar issues.

"Koramangala is designed for single dwelling units and the sewage systems are not designed to handle so many people staying at one place (in PGs). This is why it is crumbling and falling all over the place," said Nitin Seshadri, citizen activist from Koramangala.

Many residents also have a problem with random people frequenting the PGs, even in the late hours of the night.

"The sanctity of residential areas is getting disturbed by these establishments, as we would not know who has entered or exited the area until there is an untoward incident. This also drives up the crime rates. Although the PGs are required to register at police stations before providing services, most do not do it," said Sneha Nandihal of I Change Indiranagar.

She also said that following an untoward incident, residents applied an RTI to find out how many PGs in the area are registered with the police, but the officers were hesitant to provide the same.

K.V. Thrilok Chandra, Special Commissioner (Health), BBMP, said that citizens can raise issues pertaining to commercial violations and public advertising without permission with the Town Planning Department.

"We are currently focusing on bars and pubs functioning without valid licences. Shortly, we will take up a drive on PG accommodations to see if they have licences or not," he added.

Sparks and sparklers all around

People bursting crackers on the road in front of their house in Bengaluru. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Goa-bound flight forced to return to KIA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A Goa-bound Vistara flight from Bengaluru was forced to return to the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) after the flight was denied permission to land at the Dabolim airport.

Flight UK881 which departed KIA at 12.55 p.m. on Monday was scheduled to land at 2.05 p.m. However, the flight was denied permission to land owing to wildlife movement on the runway.

Airline sources said that owing to wildlife movement on the runway, the aircraft could not land at the airport and was forced to return to Bengaluru. The flight landed at KIA at 3.05 p.m.

"Flight UK881 from Bengaluru to Goa (BLR-GOI) has been diverted to Bengaluru (BLR) due to runway restriction at Goa (GOI) airport and is expected to arrive in Bengaluru at 1505hrs," the airline posted on its official X (formerly Twitter) account.

The airline said that the flight later departed from KIA at 4.55 p.m. and arrived in Goa at 6.15 p.m.

Cirium report: Most punctual airport KIA slips to fourth place in October

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport (KIA), which had secured the top position as the world's most punctual airport globally for the past three consecutive months (July, August, and September) in Cirium's on-time performance (OTP) monthly report, has slipped to fourth in October.

According to the aviation analytics firm's OTP monthly report for October, Salt Lake City International Airport is the top global airport with an on-time departure of 89.36%, followed by Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (88.57%), and Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (88.23%).

The Kempegowda International Airport had secured the top position as the world's most punctual airport globally for July, August, and September. FILE PHOTO

KIA recorded on-time departure of 87.61% during October. The airport, which served 89 routes with 36 airlines, recorded on-time arrival of 81.04%.

In July, KIA's on-time departure was 87.51%. In August it was 89.66%, and in September it was 88.51%, making it the most punctual airport globally in those three months.

The aviation analytics firm categories airports in four different categories: global airport (25-40 million seats), large airport (25-40 million seats), medium airport (15-25 million seats), small airport (5-15 million seats).

In the large airport category, KIA was ranked the top airport during July, August, and September. However in October KIA was ranked fifth with the top airports in this category being the Salt Lake City International Airport, Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport, Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, and the La Guardia Airport.

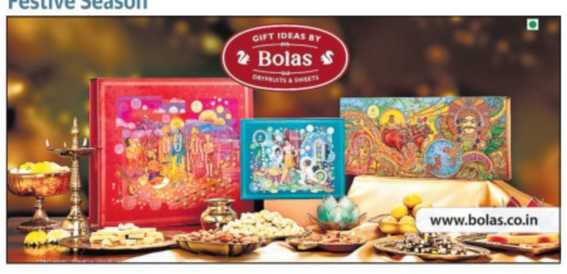
Each month, Cirium reviews the total number of flights in a given month (approximately 3 million) for every airport globally in an ordered list, then looks at where the percentile demarcations fall.

BUSINESS CONNECT
A Business Initiative

The Amazon Great Indian Festival 2023 Becomes the Biggest Ever Customer And Seller Celebrations!

The Great Indian Festival 2023 witnessed the highest customer visits, transactions, new launches, orders, and savings than any previous year. Amazon announced that its month-long Great Indian Festival (GIF) 2023 has seen the best-ever shopping celebrations for its customers, sellers and brand partners across the length and breadth of the country. The Amazon Great Indian Festival 2023 started from October 8th , with 24 hours of Prime early access, giving customers access to more than 5,000 new launches from top brands at with attractive offers on smartphones, premium electronics, high-quality TVs, engaging books, health & personal care essentials, fashion items, durable luggage, home decor, and fitness gear. With over 38,000 sellers achieving their highest-ever single day sales and more than 40 lakhs new customers shopping for the first time for their favorite products and brands, it was the best-ever festive season for Amazon India and its partners. Shopping was made more affordable and convenient for customers with exciting bank discounts and unique rewards helping customers save more than INR 600 crores. Manish Tiwary, Country Manager, India Consumer Business, Amazon said he was humbled to be a part of customer s festivities and gave a heartfelt thank you to customers, brand and bank partners, sellers, and delivery associates, for making this the biggest celebration ever in the history of Amazon operations in India.

Bolas Unveils Exquisite Heritage Gifting Collection this Festive Season



With the festivities around the corner, Bolas, a prominent Indian manufacturer specializing in the Dry Fruits, Nuts and Sweets category, has launched a unique gifting collection. Bolas Heritage series beautifully depicts the stories from epics of Ramayana, Mahabharata and folktales of Karnataka through aesthetically designed gift-boxes. Offering an array of options, from assorted sweets to nutritious nuts and dried fruits, Bolas presents multiple meaningful gifting options. The brand aims to acquaint consumers with remarkable Indian tales with its beautiful Heritage Gifting series. Speaking on this launch, Mr. Rajat Kamath Bola, Director, Bolas Agro Pvt Ltd, says " Bolas Heritage series of gifting is our tribute to stories from Ramayana, Mahabharata and Karnataka's folklore. We have tried to weave six decades of experience in the dry fruits industry to provide a truly Deepavali Gifting experience. For the period of festivities, Bolas brings a delightful blend of nourishing and delectable treats, striking a perfect balance between healthful indulgence and scrumptious sweets that leave a lasting impression. Adorned with colorful packaging, these gift packs consist of an assortment of nuts, dried fruits, and delicious sweets, like Kaju Katli, Mysore Pak etc. all beautifully packaged in decorative festive packaging.

Second Weekly draw of the 2nd Bengaluru Gold Festival: Shining a Spotlight on the "Golden City" Bengaluru

The Jewellers Association, Bengaluru organised with grandeur the e 2nd Bengaluru Gold Festival, an exquisite celebration of all things gold, has taken Bengaluru by storm. Launched with great pomp on October 15th, 2023, this festival has united 145 participants hailing from Bengaluru, Tumkuru, Shimoga, Davanagere, Hassan, Tiptur, and Bellary. The festival's mission is to unveil Bengaluru's deep-rooted connection to gold, rebranding the city as the illustrious "Golden City," in addition to its renowned titles as the "Garden City" and "Health City." The festivities will continue to enchant the city until November 30th, 2023, promising more glitter, glamour, and golden opportunities. As the festival unfolds, it brings with it a promise of fortune. Over the course of four weekly draws, participants have the chance to win a total of 1,120 grams of gold and 27 kilograms of silver. Ensuring a fair and impartial process, the draws are conducted digitally by a dedicated software team. The JAB of Bengaluru extends a warm invitation to the public to "Save in gold, for gold will save you." The 2nd Bengaluru Gold Festival is a reminder of the city's timeless association with gold, where residents and visitors alike can share in the excitement of this gilded journey.

The Ritz-Carlton, Bengaluru Redefines Culinary Excellence with an Exclusive Kikkoman Dinner Experience, Pioneering Progressive Hospitality

Recently under the visionary leadership of Mr. George Bennet Kuruvilla, General Manager, The Ritz-Carlton, Bangalore hosted an exclusive Kikkoman sit-down dinner. In collaboration with Japanese Cuisine Goodwill Ambassador Mr. Harry Hakuei Kosato and Miss World Japan Kana Yamaguchi, the invite-only dinner featured a meticulously curated menu by renowned chefs Noel, Kevin, and Yong Chong Tay of The Ritz-Carlton, Bangalore. The culinary showcase, crafted under the expert guidance of Chef Anupam Gulati, Director of Culinary, highlighted the versatility of Kikkoman sauce, elevating the guest experience. Miss World Japan expressed her delight emphasizing the hotel's commitment to providing wonderful adventures and Mr Harry underscored the various charms of Japanese cuisine, confidently anticipating more delightful experiences with authentic, pure, and natural ingredients from Japan. The Kikkoman dinner at The Ritz-Carlton, Bengaluru, stands as a testament to the hotel's progressive approach, seamlessly blending cultures and showcasing culinary excellence. The event signifies its dedication to elevating guest experiences, creating memorable moments, and fostering cultural connections between India and Japan.

Unravelling the secrets of swing in cricket with physics

A study found that the coefficient of friction doubles when humidity is increased by 20% and decreases only thereafter, thanks to hydrogen bonds. So in moist weather, the coefficient of friction can increase. This may be why India's batters lost three early wickets against Australia in Chennai

Dhiraj Sinha

Cricket matches under day-night conditions are associated with shifts in humidity and moisture. However, most cricket teams' captains have not displayed awareness that choosing to bowl first in a day-night game - because dew is expected later - carries specific risks.

Fans of the sport are aware of the 'dew factor': water vapour condenses on the ground in the evening, creating a slippery surface. As a result, spinners have a harder time getting the ball to grip and fast bowlers have more trouble producing swing and seam. Fielding on a slippery ground is also obviously harder.

As a result of these changes in ground conditions, batters appear to have an advantage under dew, as they face less swing, less spin, and less lateral movement of the ball. (Sometimes, fast bowlers release the ball at a certain angle into its flight path. As a result, air flow is turbulent on one side of the ball and streamlined on the other. This causes a sudden pressure difference that causes the ball to deviate from its path in a motion called its swing.) Batters also expect the ball to skid off the bat under dew, and expect opportunities to maintain a higher run rate with less effort.

For these reasons, most captains winning the toss in day-night matches prefer to bowl first and bat second.

Jasprit Bumrah bowls during the 2023 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup match between India and Sri Lanka at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai, November 2, 2023. AFP

Friction isn't so straightforward

A closer analysis of the physics of friction suggests that the belief that dew always increases slipperiness is scientifically flawed. Friction is reduced only when the water film in between is thick enough to reduce the amount of physical contact between two surfaces. When the thickness is below a certain threshold, it *increases* the overall friction because the water molecules interact more strongly with the two surfaces due to adhesive forces.

A recent study led by Liang Peng of the University of Amsterdam found that the coefficient of friction doubled when humidity was increased by 20% and decreased only thereafter. The scientists attributed this to hydrogen bonds that formed as a result of electrostatic forces.

Thus, in moist weather, the coefficient of friction increases, advantaging the bowler. This may have been why India's batters lost three early wickets in the match against Australia in Chennai.

Bowling speed also has some impact on the friction. The work of German physicist Richard Stribeck on friction has shown that for a given layer of lubricant - such as a film of water on a bat or a ball - friction increases when the speed of interaction between two surfaces is higher than a threshold value. So in wet conditions, fast bowlers can use this feature to force the ball to grip more by launching it at a higher speed.

Effects of weather conditions

Cricketers have also displayed the belief that the dew content negatively influences swing. In specific weather conditions, there is one optimum bowling speed, one optimum seam angle, and one desirable spin rate. If the delivery speed is less than the optimal value, the spin will need to be increased to generate a certain amount of swing.

The ball's trajectory through the air also creates an asymmetric flow field around its surface, which produces the so-called Magnus force. The strength of the force increases when the temperature is lower and there is more moisture in the air. That is, changes in air density have a strong influence on the swing.

For example, if the temperature drops from 25° C to 15° C, the air density will increase by 4%, and the ball's deviation due to swing can increase by an inch. The effect is minor but the outcomes can be significant.

Here's another relatively less-known fact: when the air temperature drops, sunlight causes less turbulence in the air above the pitch, giving bowlers more control. The success of Indian bowlers Mohammed Shami and Jasprit Bumrah in the ongoing ICC Men's Cricket World Cup may well be due to this effect.

A misunderstanding of the impact of dew can leave batters overconfident, and cause them to get out caught when trying to hit what they believe to be 'easy' balls for boundaries.

Instead, their chances can improve if they maintain a particular level of moisture content on their gloves and soles, while avoiding six-hitting.

> A misunderstanding of the impact of dew can leave batters overconfident, and cause them to be dismissed caught, trying to hit what they believe to be 'easy' balls for boundaries

Ins and outs of the DLS method

Cricketers playing a game in wet weather also need to contend with the peculiarities of the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method. The prospect of rain forces captains to prefer risk-free play that preserves wickets. This is because the DLS method works with the ratio of runs scored to resources used, and the resources are the number of overs and wickets available.

According to the DLS method, when setting a target, Team A's score per unit resource is multiplied by Team B's resources. The 'worth' of a ball and wicket in percentage terms are derived from data in a sliding four-year window.

For example, if Team A batting first scores 150 runs in 25 overs and loses four wickets, it will have used 50% of its resources according to the DLS method. If the team had known that it would bat only only for 25 overs, its members may have tried to score more even at the expense of the remaining wickets. In this setting, the DLS method assumes that Team B has more resources, and sets it a higher target to compensate for the denial of resources to Team A.

If rain shortens the game such that Team B has 25 overs left plus 10 wickets in hand, the method estimates Team B to have 66.5% of its resources remaining. So it is expected to score 16.5% more runs than Team A did in 25 overs. Thus we have a target of 175 in 25 overs for a draw and 176 runs for a win.

Key drawbacks of the DLS method are that it can't factor in the quantitative values of each team and that it favours teams that maintain a low run-rate and keep wickets in hand. In addition, the method also neglects the fact that, when after rain, Team B will have to play with a very damp pitch, which will influence its run-making abilities even while advantaging Team A, which can reap more gains if it knows how to use friction to achieve its goals.

For these reasons, our cricketers must be made fully aware of the intricacies of playing with dew and moisture, and ensure future wins.

(The author holds a doctorate in electrical engineering from the University of Cambridge, U.K. His areas of expertise are microsystems, sensors, and antennae.)

Euclid's image of the iconic Horsehead Nebula, received from ESA on November 10, 2023. AFP

Starry Euclid images spur probe of 'dark universe'

Reuters

European astronomers have released the first images from the newly launched Euclid space telescope, designed to unlock the secrets of dark matter and dark energy, hidden forces thought to make up 95% of the universe.

The European Space Agency (ESA), which leads the six-year mission with NASA as a partner, said the images were the sharpest of their kind, showcasing the telescope's ability to monitor billions of galaxies up to 10 billion light years away.

The images spanned four areas of the relatively nearby universe, including 1,000 galaxies belonging to the massive Perseus cluster just 240 million light-years away, and more than 100,000 galaxies spread out in the background, ESA said.

Scientists believe vast, seemingly organised structures such as Perseus could only have formed if dark matter exists.

Tell-tale signs of the hidden force exerted by dark matter include galaxies rotating more quickly than scientists would expect from the amount of visible matter that can be detected.

Its influence is also implicated in pulling together some of the most massive structures in the universe, like clusters of galaxies.

Dark energy is even more enigmatic. Its hypothetical existence was established only in the 1990s by studying exploding stars called supernovas, resulting in a 2011 Nobel Prize shared between three U.S.-born scientists.

Images spanned four areas of the nearby universe, including 1,000 galaxies belonging to the Perseus cluster 240 million light-years away, and more than 100,000 galaxies in the background

Thanks in part to observations from the earlier Hubble Space Telescope, they concluded that the universe was not only expanding but that the pace of expansion was accelerating - a stunning discovery attributed to the new concept of dark energy.

After initial commissioning and technical teething problems, including stray light and guidance issues, Euclid will now start piecing together a 3D map encompassing about a third of the sky to detect tiny variations attributable to the dark universe.

By gaining new insights into dark energy and matter, scientists hope to better grasp the formation and distribution of galaxies across the so-called cosmic web of the universe.

Although the mission is designed to last six years, ESA hopes Euclid has another six months of propellant to keep it in solar orbit some 1.5 million km away from the earth at Lagrange point 2, or L2 - a position of gravitational stability that is also home to NASA's James Webb Space Telescope.

Other images released by ESA included an irregular galaxy thought to resemble building blocks of the universe and a spiral formation known as the "Hidden Galaxy": a lookalike of our home galaxy usually obscured by light and dust within the Milky Way.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Recent animal extinctions from Asia

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1
This leopard species was first described in 1862. Within the next 120 years, it went extinct in its home range in Taiwan. An extensive 15-year survey from 1997 to 2012 also failed to find any individuals. Name the species.

QUESTION 2
Until at least 2008, this tiger species was believed to have gone extinct in the 1950s. The species was described as being the smallest tiger on the Sunda Islands. After a 2017 reform in taxonomy, this species was brought under *Panthera tigris sondaica*, which includes the extant Sumatran tiger. Name this tiger.

QUESTION 3
This species of deer was endemic to Thailand and resembled the barasingha. It was described in 1863. The deer's population dwindled after Thailand intensified rice cultivation, and was last recorded in 1938. Name the species.

QUESTION 4
This species of aquatic mammal went extinct in the 1970s. Until 2003, it was thought to be a subspecies of the California sea lion, but has since been classified as a separate species. It was driven to extinction by over-hunting and possibly submarine warfare during World War II. Name it.

QUESTION 5
This equine species was also called the hemippe. It was rendered extinct by 1927 by overhunting as well as by the consequences of World War I. It was the smallest equine species and couldn't be domesticated. Name it.

Answers to November 9 quiz:
1. Separation between three phases – **Ans: 120 degrees**
2. Impedance combines the effects of this and resistance – **Ans: Reactance**
3. Inverse of capacitance – **Ans: Elastance**
4. Value of the earth's self-capacitance – **Ans: 710 microfarad**
5. English physicist who coined terms like impedance, etc. – **Ans: Oliver Heaviside**

Visual: **Transformer**

First contact: Mohammed Anshad E.K. | Gandhi Vadlapatla | Chandan Sharma | Srinivasa Reddy B.

Visual: Name the species of ox memorialised in this statue in Cambodia. It's also the national animal of Cambodia and classified as possibly extinct.
CHRISTIAN PIRKL (CC BY-SA 4.0)

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Three bikers injured in freak serial accident

Mishap was captured on the dashcam of a car behind and was posted on X, which went viral

A videograb of the accident on Bannerghatta Road.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three bikers were injured in a freak accident at a traffic signal in Kalena Agrahara, Bannerghatta Road, on Sunday evening.

The accident was captured on the dashcam of a car behind and was posted on social media platform X, which went viral.

According to the police, as the vehicles were waiting at the traffic signal, a speeding SUV came and rammed two bikes, and came to a halt after it hit a median.

However, social media was abuzz that it was a hit-and-run accident, which the Hulimavu police clarified that it was not.

The injured have been identified as Kiran, Jasmita, and Basant Kumar. Of them, Jasmita is still being treated at a private hospital, and the other two have returned home.

The Hulimavu Traffic police have seized the SUV and booked the driver, Abhishek Agarwal, for rash and negligent driving.

Police officials said that the driver claimed to have mistakenly pressed the accelerator instead of the brake, leading to the accident.

65-year-old man and his 23-year-old son killed after KSRTC bus rams their bike

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A man and his son were killed in an accident when a Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) bus rammed their bike on the Lake Bund road of Ramammana Kere in Thittamaranahalli, Channapatna on Monday morning.

The deceased have been identified as Siddappa, 65, and his son, Arun, 23.

Police sources said that the driver claimed the bus developed a technical glitch in its steering and he lost control

According to the police, they were coming from Thittamaranahalli to Channapatna. Arun was driving the bike.

The police said the driver of the speeding bus lost control, rammed the bike, and came to a halt after further crashing into the fence of the lake.

But for the fence, the bus could have fallen into the lake. Siddappa and Arun sustained severe injuries in the accident and both of them were killed on the spot. The police have seized the bus and arrested the driver.

Police sources said that the driver claimed that the bus developed a technical glitch in its steering and he lost control.

The bus will be examined by experts and any technical glitches will be confirmed during the investigation, the officer said.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (November 14, Tuesday), the following articles are available:

- Community rights and forest conservation **bit.ly/conservationactforests**
- Unravelling the secrets of swing in cricket with the physics **bit.ly/cricketandphysics**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Fire breaks out at furniture showroom at Banaswadi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An accidental fire broke out at a furniture showroom in a four-storey commercial complex in Banaswadi early on Monday. Luckily, no one was injured in the accident.

The fire is suspected to have started on the first floor and soon spread to all four floors.

The building houses a furniture showroom on the ground and the first floors, a coaching centre on the second floor, and a software company office on the third and the fourth.

The fire began around 3 a.m. on Monday when the building was unoccupied and a fire of such magnitude during the work hours would have meant disaster, officials said.

There were only two security guards in the building who ran to safety as soon as the fire began and alerted the Fire and Emergency Services.

Five fire tenders rushed to the spot and put out the fire after three hours of operations.

A senior fire official said that the blaze may have been triggered owing to an electrical short-circuit in the showroom and spread widely, as it was filled with wooden furniture and foam upholstery.

The fire soon spread to the coaching centre and the software company offices, and the furniture there too added to the blaze.

The Ramamurthynagar police have registered a case and are probing further as to what led to the accident.

Youth stabbed to death over trivial row

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A youth was stabbed to death over a trivial row in Doddaballapur on the outskirts of the city on Sunday. The deceased has been identified as Surya, 18, a resident of the town.

According to the police, on Sunday evening, he went to a *dhaba* with three other friends and he began to click photos in front of a decorative mural outside with a high-end camera. Another group of youths who came out of the *dhaba* asked him to take their photos as well.

While Surya and his friends initially refused, this led to some altercation between the two groups. However, Surya later agreed and took pictures of the other group in front of the same mural.

However, a tiff broke out again when the group demanded that the photos be transferred immediately on WhatsApp.

In a disagreement over photos, two groups came to fisticuffs and one person pulled out a knife and stabbed the victim and fled from the scene

The two groups came to fisticuffs and one among them pulled out a knife and stabbed Surya repeatedly and fled from the scene. Though Surya was rushed to a nearby hospital, he was declared as brought dead.

The police have now booked a murder case against the gang of around five, of which the police have identified two. The police said they had identified the stabber as Dileep and efforts were on to track him down and arrest him.

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SAVE THE DATE

M.K. Bhan - Young Researcher Fellowship Programme (MKB-YRFP)
The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, is accepting applications for the M.K. Bhan - Young Researcher Fellowship Programme (MKB-YRFP).
Eligibility: An Indian national less than 35 years on closing date of application, with a Ph.D. in any branch of Life Sciences/ Biotechnology/allied areas; should not be holding a permanent position in any institution; should have an excellent track record such as peer-reviewed publications, technologies developed, patent (if any).
Rewards: consolidated monthly remuneration of ₹75,000
Deadline: November 30
For details, visit https://bitly.ws/ZCkM

Internship programme
Zamit has introduced an internship for students from classes 5 to 12.
Verticals: Game Design and Development, Market Research and Data Analytics, Introduction to AI Tools for Enriching Learning, and Unlocking the Power of DataOps.
Types: An extended 24-week internship for secondary school students and a short four- to 8-week internship held twice every academic year.
https://www.zamit.one/students/internships-for-students

MBA Programme
MIT-World Peace University has commenced admissions for its MBA programmes for the academic year 2024.
Eligibility: Minimum 60% aggregate in three/ four-year full-time Bachelor's degree from a UGC-approved university or equivalent. A valid non-zero score in CAT 2023, XAT 2024, NMAT 2023, PERA 2024, CMAT 2024, MAH-CET 2024 and Sep MAT 2023 onwards.
Deadline: June 30, 2024
https://admissions.mitwpu.edu.in/mba/

International Undergraduate Merit Scholarship 2024

Ashoka Horizons' Programme
Ashoka University launched the Ashoka Horizons programme to empower students from Classes 9 to 12.
Courses: Psychology: Measuring the Unmeasurable, Writing and Communication: Crafting Your Story for Success, Political Science and International Relations: War, Peace, and Drones, Literature: The World of Romeo and Juliet, and Our Past Through Biomolecules.
https://www.ashoka.edu.in/ashoka-horizons/

M.S. Biomedical Engineering
LeapScholar has announced a hybrid M.S. Biomedical Engineering (MS-BME) programme, in partnership with Case Western Reserve University (CWRU).
Eligibility: A four-year UG in Engineering, Natural Sciences, or Mathematical Sciences, from a regionally accredited academic institution, with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher; a minimal Mathematical background includes calculus through differential equations. A minimal Science and Engineering background includes a combined total of three years of Physical, Chemical, and Engineering Sciences. English Proficiency and GRE/GMAT scores are waived for students applying through Leap.
Deadline: July 28, 2024
https://bitly.ws/ZCL5

M.S. Mechanical Engineering
LeapScholar has announced a hybrid M.S. Mechanical Engineering (MS-ME) programme, in partnership with Case Western Reserve University.
Eligibility: A four-year UG degree from a regionally accredited academic institution with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher;. Those with a degree in a non-Engineering discipline must demonstrate a strong proficiency in Calculus, Maths and other Sciences. English Proficiency test, and GRE/ GMAT scores are waived for students applying through Leap.
Deadline: July 28, 2024
https://tinyurl.mobi/ZCKR.

PGDM applications
FORE School of Management has opened applications for PGDM Admissions 2024. It will accept scores of CAT percentile, XAT percentile, and GMAT scores.
Eligibility: A Bachelor's degree with a minimum of 50% marks or equivalent recognised by AICTE/ UGC/ AIU. They must take the CAT-2023/ XAT-2024/ GMAT Exam (GMAT score should be taken between January 1, 2022 and January 31, 2024).
Deadline: December 20
Apply at https://admissions.fsm.ac.in/

Shannon College High School Star Competition
Shannon College of Hotel Management, University of Galway, in partnership with Education in Ireland, is organising the Shannon College High School Star Competition 2024 on the topic Sustainability: The Future of Hospitality.
Participants must design a comprehensive sustainability plan tailored to a hotel in their city.
Eligibility: Each participant must have a teacher or school counsellor as mentor. There are no limits on the number of students that schools can nominate. Students in Classes 10, 11, and 12 can participate.
https://bitly.ws/ZDih

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WARANGAL-506 004
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Notification for Admission to Ph.D. (Regular/ Self-finance/ Part time) December, 2023 Session, for the Academic Year 2023-24
Applications are invited from highly motivated candidates for admission into Ph.D (Regular/ Self-finance/ Part time) for December, 2023 Session at NIT Warangal.
Ph. D (Regular/ Self-finance/ Part time): Admission through Written Test/ Interview in all disciplines of Engineering, Sciences, English, and Management. Application shall be submitted online.
a. **Full Time Ph.D.:** Research Fellowships will be offered as per Government of India norms.
b. **Full Time Ph.D. (Self-finance):** Candidates having PG Degree in respective programs are eligible to apply. No Research Fellowship will be offered.
c. **Part Time Ph.D.:** Candidates working in National Laboratories, R&D and other organizations, Academic Institutions etc. are eligible to apply. No Research Fellowship will be offered.
Details of the programs, eligibility criteria, admission schedule and procedure to submit the application form are available from **14th November, 2023 at www.nitw.ac.in**

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The number of people who fled from Myanmar to Mizoram

5,000 People fled Myanmar for Mizoram in India, following intense fighting in Myanmar's Rakhine and Chin states. Ethnic minority insurgent groups attacked security posts. REUTERS

The cases filed for firecracker violations in Tamil Nadu

2,000 Cases were filed due to violation of norms in bursting crackers. Officials said Chennai's air quality ranged between poor and very poor, and that 210 tonnes of waste was removed from the streets. PTI

Earthquakes that rattled southern Iceland in a day

900 earthquakes. The earthquakes forced 4,000 people to evacuate, over fears that molten rock would rise to the surface of the earth and potentially hit a coastal town and a geothermal power station. REUTERS

The increase in vegetable oils imports in 2022-23: SEA

16 in percentage. India's vegetable oils imports rose to 167.1 lakh tonnes in the current oil year from 144.1 lakh tonnes in 2021-22 (November- October), according to the Solvent Extractors Association of India (SEA). PTI

Amount in debt raised by Israel since the latest war

7.8 in $ billion. As a result of the conflict with Hamas militants, Israel recorded a budget deficit of 22.9 billion shekels ($5.92 billion) in October, a leap from 4.6 billion shekels in September. REUTERS

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Community rights and forest conservation

What is the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023? What did the 31-member Joint Parliamentary Committee decide with respect to the amendment Bill tabled in Parliament? Why do the Central and State governments insist on the right to convert forest land for non-forest purposes?

EXPLAINER

Abhilash Thadathil

The story so far:

The Forest Conservation Amendment Act of 2023 has received limited attention and little discussion about its impact on forests and its inhabitants. From the colonial forest law in 1865 to the Forest Conservation Amendment Act, 2023, more than fifteen laws, Acts, and policies have been formulated interlinking forests with legal and policy frameworks. However, there is little to no recognition of the rights of indigenous communities in these Acts, who are the rightful inhabitants of forest lands.

What is the new amendment?

At first glance, the amendment primarily aims to tackle the critical issues of climate change and deforestation's adverse effects, focusing on effective management and afforestation. The law further aims to determine how forests can be utilised for economic gain, and the manner in which it seeks to achieve this goal is outlined in the legislation. The primary method used to achieve this objective involves removing forests from the law's jurisdiction, thereby facilitating various forms of economic exploitation. As per the amendment, the forest law will now apply exclusively to areas categorised under the 1927 Forest Act and those designated as such on or after October 25, 1980. The Act will not be applicable to forests that were converted for non-forest use on or after December 12, 1996 and land which falls under 100 kilometres from the China and Pakistan border where the central government can build linear projects. To establish security infrastructure and facilities for surveillance, the central government is authorised to construct security measures in areas up to ten hectares. This provision also applies to areas (up to five hectares) which are designated as vulnerable. Within these regions, the government, with the necessary approvals, can implement security protocols as described above. Initiatives like ecotourism, safari, environmental entertainment, and more may be implemented in these areas. The main objective of these initiatives is to improve the livelihoods of those reliant on forest resources, a goal that has drawn criticism from tribal communities and human rights activists.

Why was the amendment brought in?

The *Godavarman Thirumulkpad* case, a prominent legal dispute that came before the Supreme Court in 1996, led to an interpretation of forest land in accordance with its 'dictionary meaning'. Subsequently, all private forests were brought under the ambit of the 1980 law. This has been a subject of debate as it was argued that the legislation primarily aims to restrict forest land from being used for various non-forest purposes, including the conversion of land for large-scale industries. The law has faced significant opposition, especially from private landowners, individuals, and organisations involved in forest conservation, for its perceived adverse impact on the country's industrial progress. In other words, the need to exclude forest land from the legal framework was mainly driven by the requirements of the industrial classes in the country. It is in this context that concerns regarding the Forest Conservation Act tend to resurface periodically, echoing the apprehensions of indigenous communities and human rights activists. These factors came to the forefront again when the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill was introduced in Parliament in March, triggering extensive discussions and debates. The Parliament then referred the Bill to a 31-member Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC).

Abundant forests: Paddy fields are seen near a Dongria tribal village inside the Niyamgiri hills in Odisha. FILE PHOTO

What did the JPC recommend?

Of the 31-member JPC addressing the issue, only six individuals were from the opposition. The JPC submitted its report to Parliament on July 20, within three months. The critical comments from the committee members and public appear to have been largely disregarded; reduced to dissenting notes, holding a minority viewpoint on the Bill.

Therefore, the Bill successfully passed in both houses of Parliament without any substantial debates or discussions. There have been no collaborative discussions with the southern States concerning matters related to their specific geographical locations. A few days after the Act was enacted, the Odisha government revoked the "deemed forest" status in the State but had to later cancel the order due to public outrage and cited that it is waiting for detailed rules and guidelines from the concerned Central Ministry. If the government were to remove the forests from the purview of the Forest Conservation Act, it would effectively obstruct indigenous communities from asserting their rights.

What happened to the stipulation of 'prior consent'?

The Forest Conservation Act underwent important amendments in 2016 and 2017, which stipulated that prior consent from the tribal grama sabha was mandatory for any alterations to forests for non-forest purposes. However, the recent revisions to the legislation have removed the necessity for such consent. Nevertheless, in this situation, State governments can proactively engage in specific activities within this framework through the inclusion of grama sabhas, particularly in matters of land acquisition for various purposes, by establishing State-level steering committees. But numerous State governments might hesitate on this aspect, as they hold a preconceived notion that Adivasi grama sabhas are 'anti-development,' and they fear that their decisions could hinder economically lucrative afforestation initiatives.

What is compensatory afforestation?

Compensatory afforestation, as outlined in the new legislation, encompasses various projects and schemes that can be undertaken by both private individuals and organisations (including large corporations) for afforestation or reforestation purposes. The Compensatory Afforestation Act encountered significant challenges in the past, primarily due to ambiguities in the original legislation and shortage of available land. The goal of the new amendment is to streamline the process. However, there is apprehension regarding the potential environmental implications of this amendment. The law mandates that for every parcel of land that is lost due to afforestation efforts, an equivalent amount of land must be afforested elsewhere. It does not specify the type of trees that should be planted, leaving room for discretion.

How does this affect the Forest Rights Act (FRA)?

The FRA has had notable impacts in various regions, such as the Mendha-Lekha in Maharashtra, Loyendi in Odisha, and Malakkappara in Kerala. Despite the initial enthusiasm, it appears that both the Central and State governments have become less enthusiastic about implementing the FRA in their States. Many consider the Act as an impediment to convert forest land for non-forest purposes. The State government and its bureaucracy hold the view that granting community rights under the FRA could weaken the State's authority over the forest. They anticipate potential legal challenges to any such endeavours. To navigate this situation, the government has opted to reduce or dilute the extent of forest areas, rather than amend the FRA, thereby limiting the potential for additional Adivasi claims. The amendment also fails to address the growing issue of human-animal conflicts in forest areas, particularly in the Adivasi hamlets of the Western Ghats region. This conflict not only endangers the livelihoods of the Adivasis but also poses a threat to wildlife.

What are the problems?

When examined superficially, the law appears to address issues without complications. However, once the law is put into practice, it presents substantial challenges to forest dwelling communities and government agencies. The concept of afforestation, which offers considerable financial incentives to private individuals and institutions for afforestation projects, fundamentally clashes with the idea of forest governance. Furthermore, it contradicts the concept of decentralised forest governance as forests in the country fall under the concurrent list. Such governance practices are against the spirit of federal norms. Moreover, defining strategic linear projects becomes exceptionally complex and vague. Unlike external security threats like border disputes and cross-border skirmishes, internal environmental security should also be considered a significant concern, especially in States that consistently face natural disasters. Regrettably, this priority is not guaranteed.

Abhilash Thadathil is Assistant Professor at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram.

THE GIST

The Forest Conservation Amendment Act of 2023 aims to determine how forests can be utilised for economic gain, and the manner in which it seeks to achieve this goal is outlined in the legislation. The primary method used to achieve this objective involves removing forests from the law's jurisdiction, thereby facilitating various forms of economic exploitation.

The Forest Conservation Act underwent important amendments in 2016 and 2017, which stipulated that prior consent from the tribal grama sabha was mandatory for any alterations to forests for non-forest purposes.

Despite the initial enthusiasm, it appears that both the Central and State governments have become less enthusiastic about implementing the Forest Rights Act in their States.

CCB conducts special drive against usurers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Sleuths from the Central Crime Branch (CCB) conducted raids on three usurers, moneylenders who were illegally charging hefty rates of interest, in the city. One of those raided include a rowdy sheeter. Raids were conducted in Basavanagudi, Chamarajpet, Kamakshipalya, and Basaveshwaranagar.

The police recovered valuables worth ₹42 lakh, including ₹23.42 lakh in cash, gold ornaments, silver articles, property documents, and blank signed cheques of those who have taken loans from them.

Murder of four of family: Assailant yet to be traced

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The Udupi police are yet to make a breakthrough in the murder of a woman and her three children at Tripthi Nagar of Nejar, near Malpe, in Udupi city on Sunday.

An unidentified assailant entered their house and allegedly hacked to death Haseena, 46, and her children Afnan, 23, Agnaz, 21, and Asim,12. Haseena's mother-in-law Hajira, 70, who was found critically injured in the bathroom is undergoing treatment.

Haseena's husband Mohammed Noor works abroad. His other son Asad works in Bengaluru. Both (Mr. Noor and Mr. Asad) came to Udupi on Sunday evening.

Udupi Superintendent of Police K. Arun said five teams had been formed to crack the case.

The bodies of Haseena and her three children were handed over, following autopsy, to Haseena's husband Mr. Noor.

Mr. Noor and his other son Asad, and a large number of Noor's family members and friends took part in the last rites performed near Jamia Masjid in Kodi Bengre.

All four bodies were buried near the Majid around 3 p.m.

Despite schools' initiatives, experts still see excessive junk food consumption

'All schools should ensure that their outlets do not sell junk food and instead stock their canteens with fresh fruits, fruit juices, soups and sprouts, and other healthy snacks'

CHILDREN'S DAY

Jayanth R. and Jahnavi T. R.
BENGALURU

Food for thought Nutritionists and dieticians have reported seeing many cases of parents coming with junk food consumption problem among children. FILE PHOTO

Despite the State and the Union governments' regulations which dictate that only safe and healthy food should be available in school and within 50 metres of the school premises, junk food continues to be sold very close to school campuses in Bengaluru.

However, in view of the growing concerns about children's health, along with self-imposed regulations about not bringing junk food to school, many managements have also introduced healthier alternatives, organised counselling sessions for both parents and students to promote healthy eating.

"Ever since our school started almost two decades ago, we have made it a rule that junk food is not allowed in school. We allow them to bring chips and some snacks like that only for the end-of-the-year class parties. We believe that education is not just about learning curriculum but also preparing children to be fit for life," said Nooraine Fazal, co-founder, CEO and managing trustee, Inventure Academy.

Sunil Fernandes S.J., principal, St Joseph's Boys High School, said that even in the school's canteen, junk food is banned. "As a policy, we strictly follow that only healthy food should be consumed by children. However, sometimes they still try to bring it and we create awareness at those times. In the beginning of the academic year, we also organised a session from a doctor about dental hygiene and healthy food habits for students and parents too," he said.

Apart from these rules, some schools have also banned children distributing chocolates or cakes for their birthdays and suggested alternatives like dry fruits bars or chikki.

Harshakumar N., chairman of Sadhana Public School, Bayyanapalya, said, "We have strictly banned distributing cakes and chocolates at the birthday celebration of students. Also, instead of distributing sweets in school programmes and ceremonies, we prefer to distribute groundnut chikki or jaggery based sweets to children."

Despite these steps being taken, nutritionists and dieticians reported seeing many cases of parents coming with junk food consumption problem among children.

"This is becoming an epidemic now. As a larger measure, all schools should ensure that the outlets they have do not sell junk food and instead stock their canteens with fresh fruits, fruit juices, soups and sprouts, and other healthy snacks. In that age group, peer influence is more and if one child eats healthy food, the others would also like to try it," said Hema Aravind, chief clinical nutritionist and dietician at M.S. Ramiah Memorial Hospital.

She added, "We also see a lot of cases of parents saying that if the child does not like what they cook, then they order food online themselves. Instead of this, the parents should make the children eat whatever is put on the table, or at least try a few bites. They should also be more innovative to include fruits, vegetables, and greens in the children's diets. For instance, they can give them fruits in the form of milkshakes (without sugar) or chaats."

Shashi Kumar D., general secretary of the Karnataka Associated Management of Private Schools (KAMS), said the police and the Health Department have failed to prevent the sale and usage of tobacco products on the premises of schools.

"How will they prevent the sale of junk food? Most elite private schools are selling junk food in canteens. Despite the Union government's regulations, the DSEL has failed to monitor this," he said.

Synergia Conclave to focus on bridging gap between tech creators and military

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The biennial Synergia Conclave, which focuses on strategic thinking, this time titled "The Future of Advance Technologies, Global Diplomacy and National Security" is back in the city from November 17 to 19 at Taj West End.

This time, the conclave is headlined by the Chief of Defence Staff, India, General Anil Chauhan; the Chief of Indian Naval Staff, Admiral R. Hari Kumar; the Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari, and National Cybersecurity Coordinator Lt. Gen. M.U. Nair, among several other military and intelligence czars from around the world.

Author Yuval Noah Harari will also be delivering a lecture on "Tech Evolution" at the conclave.

"While people who build and incubate cutting-edge advance technologies are here, there is a gap between the industry and the military, which has always been the early adopters of advance technologies. We are trying to bridge this gap in the conclave," said Tobby Simon, founder and president, Synergia Foundation.

The conclave has sessions on "Responsible Artificial Intelligence", "Advanced Technology and Tech Diplomacy", "Deep Technology and Long-term trends", among other subjects. "The conclave will also do some crystal gazing trying to paint the future global scenarios, helping us look beyond the curve," Mr. Simon said.

The conclave has sessions on the nature of conflicts in Ukraine and the Israel-Gaza strip, multi-domain warfare, and a session trying to map the trajectory of Asia by 2035.

The National Security Advisory Board (NSAB), Government of India, has partnered with Synergia Foundation for the conclave, while Tata Consultancy Services are the principal sponsors of the conclave.

10 fishing boats destroyed in fire at Gangolli fishing harbour

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The police said the exact cause of the fire would be known following reports by forensic experts, who have collected samples of the destroyed material. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

As many as 10 fishing boats, including eight large boats and two smaller ones, six motorcycles and five fishing nets were destroyed in a fire that broke out in the dockyard of Gangolli fishing harbour in Udupi district on Monday. There was no human casualty.

The tragedy took place at about 10 a.m. when a pooja of the boats anchored at the dock was being done in light of the Deepavali festival.

Police said that some locals claimed that the fire broke out due to the bursting of firecrackers as the spark ignited the thatched roof of a boat, which spread to other boats anchored nearby and two-wheelers parked at the yard and fishing nets kept at the yard.

A fire tender each from Kundapura, Udupi and Byndoor reached the spot soon and put off the fire at around 2 p.m.

A fire officer said personnel worked till evening to put off small embers of fire noticed in the damaged boats. The police said exact cause of the fire will be known following reports by forensic experts, who have collected samples of damaged material.

Fisheries, Ports and Inland Water Transport Minister Mankal Vaidya visited the spot along with officials in the evening.

Inter-school challenge launched to help city become clean, green, and sustainable

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

On the occasion of Children's Day, an ideathon and a youth leadership summit have been launched for schools by the State government, through its Brand Bengaluru initiative, to help the city become clean, green, and sustainable.

According to a release, Ideathon-2023 is an inter-school student innovation initiative to involve school students in providing solutions to the problems and challenges of the city. The event aims to harness the potential of young minds from schools across Bengaluru.

The challenge is open to students from Classes X to XII. Each participating school can be represented by one team of two students.

The challenge is open to schools located only in Bengaluru and will accept solutions only in Kannada and English. There is no entry fee.

Only the first 200 entries will be considered. Schools can register on www.youngleadersofbengaluru.com. The last date is December 5.

The grand finale will be held as part of 'Youth Leadership Summit-2023' scheduled to be held in January 13, 2024, where eminent personalities and achievers will share their experiences to inspire and motivate the participating students to strive for excellence and to be solution-oriented citizens, said the release.

D.K. Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister, will interact with the students during the summit.

Sudha Murty, educator and author, will chair the jury and be part of the summit.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, NOV. 14
RISE 06:17 SET 17:50
RISE 06:57 SET 18:35

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15
RISE 06:18 SET 17:50
RISE 07:57 SET 19:29

THURSDAY, NOV. 16
RISE 06:18 SET 17:50
RISE 08:58 SET 20:28

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	23
Mysuru	31	21
Bengaluru	28	17

Bengaluru Today
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night also will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be mostly dry. Morning will be slight cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Maharashtra Medical Goods Procurement Authority, Mumbai
e-mail - maha.mmgpa2023@gmail.com
MMGPA, 1st Floor, Arogya Bhavan, St.Georges Hospital Compund, MUMBAI - 400 001.

TENDER NOTICE

Advt. No. 7 Date :-10/11/2023

Chief Executive Officer, Maharashtra Medical Goods Procurement Authority, Mumbai invites tender in two Envelope system from the eligible bidders for the following items for purchase of medicines.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Name of Item(s)	Prebid Meeting	Period of sale, download & submission of bid	Bid Opening
1	E-19	Psychiatric Medicines	Dt.16.11.2023 at 14.00 hrs.	Dt. 10.11.2023 at 14.00 hrs. to Dt.24.11.2023 upto14.00 hrs.	Dt.28.11.2023 at 11.01 hrs.

1. For detailed information, the interested bidders may visit the website https://mahatenders.gov.in.
2. The Chief Executive Officer reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantity to be purchased and also reserves the right to cancel all the tenders without giving any reason to.

For e-tendering help/ information, please contact.
Website: - https://mahatenders.gov.in
Contact No. 022-22621886 / 022-22621973
Email: maha.mmgpa2023@gmail.com

Signature
Chief Executive Officer, Maharashtra Medical Goods Procurement Authority, Mumbai

DGIPR/2023/2024/4896

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2 AT BANGALORE
O.A. No. 697 of 2022
M/s. CANARA BANK
NELAMANGALA BR, B'LORE RURAL DT.-562123.
Rep. by its Br. Manager V/s. ....APPLICANT
M/s. GANESH BIO ENERGY INC & 3 OTHERS ....DEFENDANTS
SUMMONS TO THE DEFT. Nos. 1 TO 4 ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF DRT (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993
Deft. No. 1: M/s. GANESH BIO ENERGY INC
A Partnership Firm by its Partners, Smt. Rashmi Prakash, Prakash G. Upanal & Smt. Lakshmi, @ # 56/1, Malangatti Village, Near T-Begur, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Tq-562 123. Blore Rural District.
Deft. No. 2: Smt. RASHMI PRAKASH @ RESHMA
Aged abt 49 Yrs, W/o. Sri. Praksh G Upanal
Deft. No. 3: Miss. LAKSHMI
Aged about 28 Yrs, D/o. Sri. Prakash G Upanal Deft. Nos. 2 & 3 are R/@ # 647, 2nd Block, Bhavaninagara, Railway Layout, Near Vidhyanikethan School, B'lore-91.
Deft. No. 4: Smt. LALITHAMMA
Aged about 58 Yrs, W/o. Late Basappa, R/@. # 165, 2nd Cross, Muddinpalya, Vishwaneedam Post, Bangalore-560091.
WHEREAS the above named Applicant has instituted an application U/S 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks & Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against the defendants for recovery of a sum of Rs. 65,37,938/= alongwith court costs, together with current & future interest and other reliefs from the date of application till date of recovery. You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days of the service of the summons or on 27th day of December 2023 at 10:30 a.m. either in person or duly instructed pleader as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted. Take Notice that, in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 21st day of July 2023 at Bangalore.
Sd/- (REGISTRAR)
Debts Recovery Tribunal-2 for Karnataka
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bangalore-560 001.

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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, ANNAPURNA S Shebannavar legally wedded spouse of Service No.10490382Y, Rank:L-NK, Name: Ramesh Adrushappa Gidnavar, R/at Village: Benachinamaradi, Tq: Gokak, Dist: Belagavi, Karnataka have changed my name from Annapurna S Shebannavar to Annapurna Gidnavar vide affidavit dated 10/11/2023 before Notary Sivakumara.M. N, Bengaluru.

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME
I, HUSSAIN Bi is mother of Service No. TJ-7195Y, Rank: Sub, Name: Abbidali Saheb Nadaf R/at Maradur(Village), Halagi(Post), Haveri(Tq & Dist), Karnataka-581213, have changed my name from Hussain Bi to Husenbi Peersab Nadaf vide affidavit dated 10/11/2023 before Notary Sivakumara.M.N, Bengaluru.

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CHANGE OF NAME
I, SARA Najmuddin Safee, W/o Burhanuddin Shabbir Abbasi, R/at No.19, Lamya Maskan, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross, Bohra Layout, Masjid Road, Gottigere, Bangalore-560083 have changed my name from Sara Najmuddin Saifee to Sara Burhanuddin Abbasi vide affidavit dated 13/11/2023 before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE X ADDL. CHIEF JUDGE : CITY CIVIL COURTS COMPLEX : HYDERABAD DISTRICT : AT HYDERABAD : TELANGANA
O.S. NO. 277 OF 2023
BETWEEN :
Neelima Koneru w/o Vivekananda Gudena Aged about 47 Yrs., occ: Housewife, R/o Sy.No.284, Sania Mirza Tennis Academy, Moinabad, Telangana -501 504. ... PLAINTIFF
AND
Siva Rao Koneru s/o Kutumba Rao Koneru Aged about 65 Yrs., Occ: Business, Managing partner Raghu Infra Pvt Ltd, R/o No.24, 1st cross, 29 th main, B.T.M Layout, 1st stage, Bangalore – 560 068. ... DEFENDANT
You the above named @ Siva Rao Koneru is hereby informed that Smt. Neelima Koneru filed the above Suit for Recovery of Money against you.
The above suit stands posted on 07-12-2023 for your Appearance. You are hereby directed to appear in this court in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the 7th day of December, 2023 at 10.30 O' clock before the above court i.e., HON'BLE X ADDL. CHIEF JUDGE, CITY CIVIL COURTS COMPLEX, HYDERABAD DISTRICT AT HYDERABAD, TELANGANA and submit your grievances.
// by order of the court //
G. SHANTI, Advocate
COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF
Ph: 98496 19000

TENDERS
KERALA UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
THRISSUR - 680 596
PHONE: 0487-2207650, 2207664
FAX: 0487-2206770
No : 37335(1)/2023/A2/Admn-P/KUHS
Date: 10-11-2023
E-TENDER NOTICE
Competitive E- Tenders are invited for the Printing and Supply of 5,00,000 nos. of 12-page answer booklets. Last date: 20/11/2023 at 05.00 PM. Tender ID: 2023_KUHS_619037_1. For more details: Log on to: www.etenders.kerala.gov.in or call 0487-220 7716, 7717
REGISTRAR

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LOKNITI CSDS SURVEY

Congress's online campaign more robust in Madhya Pradesh

As the State heads for the polls, the Lokniti-CSDS analysed social media posts on X by both major parties in the State to understand the kind of content online campaigns spread and generate

Sanjay Kumar
Aditi Singh
Avika Singh
Kaushiki K. Singh

Madhya Pradesh has mostly been a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-ruled State since 2003, with the Indian National Congress (INC) forming the government for a brief period between December 2018 to March 2020. As the State goes for elections on November 17 for all 230 assembly seats, social media has become an important platform for campaigning and garnering votes. The purpose of this study by the Lokniti-CSDS is to understand and contrast the kind of posts made in the run-up to the elections by the two major parties and their members.

Categorising posts

A total of 24 accounts were monitored, 12 from the BJP and 12 from the INC. These accounts included the handles of senior party leaders, Opposition party members, MLAs, party workers, State official accounts and party supporters. All the posts recorded were from the social media platform, X (formerly known as Twitter). The recorded posts were categorised as positive, negative, neutral, and mixed. The posts were categorised as positive if they were about the accomplishment of the party and negative if it included posts criticising the other party for their shortcomings. Neutral posts included general updates about visits and greetings. The mixed category had posts which were simultaneously commending the party and attacking the other party (Table 1).

The reach of the Congress

Out of the 1,000 posts recorded, 500 were by the INC and 500 were from the BJP. From the posts, it can be observed that the INC had a more robust social media presence in Madhya Pradesh as compared to what was observed by Lokniti in its studies in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. Around 34% of the total posts recorded were videos and 49% were photos.

One of the most active accounts overall was the party's official State account – @INCMP on X. Out of the total posts made by the account, 42% were negative, 42% were positive, and 15% were neutral. The online campaign of the @BJP4MP seems to be rather subdued and more focused on positive propaganda, which is in stark contrast to its vigorous approach in the States of Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan. The most active informants in the BJP sample in Madhya Pradesh were the Chief Minister's handle accounting for 33% of posts, senior party leaders (30%) followed by the official party account @BJP4MP (17%) and others. The party appears to be primarily focused on amplifying its schemes and achievements.

The top categories of INC's positive posts were about the manifesto, public speeches, poll results, and personal image. The positive posts about the manifesto included various schemes and decisions the INC will bring into fruition in the State if it is elected. The manifesto includes healthcare schemes, job opportunities, provisions for education, the Old Pension Scheme, distributing cylinders for ₹500, free 100 units of electricity and so forth. Among the most frequently used slogans by the party were '*Badhaiye Haath, Fir Kamal Nath*' and '*Congress Ayegi, Khushali Layegi*' (Table 2).

The negative posts by the INC were overwhelmingly about corruption in the State, misgovernance, and about internal strife within the party. The rampant corruption in the State was one of the major criticisms taken up by the INC against BJP. Such posts included allegations about the 50% commission taken by the Shivraj Singh Chouhan's administration, the Patwari recruitment scam, the midday meal scam, the mahakal lok scam, the sarva shiksha abhiyan scam etc (Table 3). Hashtags and slogans such as '#Shivraj_Ghotalaraj' and '*Madhya Pradesh Ne Thana Hai, Jungle Raj Hatana Hai*' widely used by INC party accounts further focused upon the issue of corruption within the State.

The governance under BJP, or the lack thereof, was another case in point highlighted by the INC in its social media campaign. The issues taken up by the party included a myriad of problems such as the delay in salaries for guest teachers and MGNREGA employees, inflation, farmers' concerns, unemployment etc.

A look at the bright side by the BJP

The BJP appears to have a different campaign strategy online. Out of the total positive posts made by the BJP, about 25% were about its achievements in governance. A lot of focus seems to be on central government schemes such as the PM Awas Yojana. Another 25% of tweets were party fanfaronade, with several video excerpts of roadshows, rallies and testimonials of the general public being posted frequently. In a strategy similar to the BJP in Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union government schemes seemed to be the anchor of the campaign. Almost 15% and 13% of the total positive posts were about him and central government schemes respectively (Table 4). Hashtags like '#MP_ke_Mann_Mein_Modi', "MPwithModiji" '#LadliBehna' and CorruptionNath were trending on X.

Almost 8% of the tweets were about women and their empowerment. These tweets were almost always posted in the light of the MP government flagship scheme "Ladli Behna Yojana '' which promises a monthly assistance of ₹1,250. There were mentions of several other schemes and policies for the welfare of women. The 2% of religious posts were mostly about the inauguration of the Ram Mandir, while 2% posts were about caste. Multiple posts featured PM Modi's statement in a rally in Sidhi wherein he said, "*Poori congress mujhe gaali dekar poore OBC varg ka apmaan kar rahi hai*" (Congress has insulted the entire OBC community by insulting me).

Almost 47% of the negative posts made by the BJP were predominantly attacks on the Congress party and its leadership on the grounds of misgovernance and shoddy politics. The allegations of corruption were featured in almost 21% of posts (Table 5). The BJP made multiple posts levelling corruption allegations, such as the *Karzamaafi Ghotala* to the tune of ₹3000 crore, *Jal Sansadhan Ghotala* and *Krishi Ghotala* among others. There were almost 13% posts on religion with a majority of the posts targeting the party for being 'anti-Sanatan'. The negative posts about caste were targeting the divisive politics of the INC.

More focus on women, religion, caste

There was an emphasis on women by both the INC and the BJP. This can be better understood in the light of the fact that the female voter base in Madhya Pradesh is a whopping 2.72 crore (48%) according to the 2018 Assembly Election figures.

The BJP made several posts regarding the welfare of women. The party amplified its Ladli Bhena Yojana through its online campaign. In order to outdo this move by the Shivraj Singh-led administration, the INC has promised to provide a monthly aid worth ₹1,500 to women as a part of its larger blueprint for empowering women in the State. Despite this the BJP has given tickets to only 25 female candidates whereas the Congress has given tickets to 30 women, which is less than 15% of the total seats.

Additionally, both parties have made significant number of posts criticising each other by highlighting the internal strife within the parties. There have been multiple instances wherein party workers on both sides protested against candidature and senior party members. One of the most notable cases is that of Jabalpur where BJP party workers heckled Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav.

Moreover, on the other side of the court, alleged INC party supporters burned effigies of former Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh in Bhopal.

The parties posted a significant volume of tweets with religious undertones. The BJP tweets were pertaining to Ram Mandir and the "anti-Sanatani" Congress. There were also multiple tweets regarding caste by both the parties. The BJP has given tickets to 68 OBC candidates whereas the INC has given it to 59.

With the elections just around the corner, these trends and observations may be subject to change. These findings thus provide a preliminary overview of how political parties use social media platforms as a means of communication and campaign tool in the runup to the elections.

Sanjay Kumar is a Professor at CSDS, Aditi Singh is an Assistant Professor at O.P. Jindal Global University, Kaushiki K. Singh and Avika Singh are short-term researchers with Lokniti-CSDS

The online battlefield in Madhya Pradesh

As the State's elections are scheduled to be held on November 17, the Lokniti-CSDS takes a closer at the social media campaign of the two major parties, BJP and Congress

Table 1: The proportion of positive, negative, and neutral posts made by the INC and BJP

Nature of the posts	INC (Total posts recorded - 500)	BJP (Total posts recorded - 500)
Positive	47%	47%
Negative	36%	18%
Neutral	15%	35%
Mixed	2%	-

Table 2: The subject-wise percentage of positive posts made by the INC

Subject of the posts	Percentage of posts
Manifesto	30%
Public speeches	16%
Poll results	14%
Personal image	10%
Religion	6%
Gender	5%
Caste	4%
Updates	4%
Governance	3%
Temple visits	3%
Kamal Nath	2%
Other party members	1%
Schemes and decisions	1%
About the party	1%

Table 3: The subject-wise percentage of negative posts made by the INC

Subject of the posts	Percentage of posts
Corruption	28%
Governance	20%
About the party	20%
Other party members	7%
Shivraj Singh Chouhan	6%
Gender	4%
Schemes and decisions	3%
Narendra Modi	3%
Caste	2%
Law and order	2%
Exposing fake news	2%
Predicting poll results	1%
Religion	1%
Others	1%

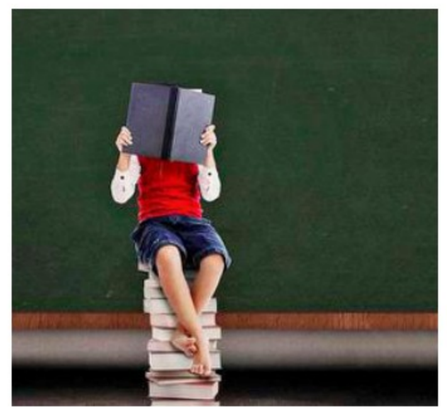
Long journey: Mahila Congress National President Netta D'Souza and spokesperson Supriya Shrinate and others participate in a *kalash yatra* in support of Congress candidates ahead of elections, in Bhopal on November 11. PTI

Table 4: The subject-wise percentage of positive posts made by the BJP

Subject of the posts	Percentage of posts
Governance	25%
About the party	25%
Narendra Modi	15%
Schemes and decisions	13%
Gender	8%
Updates	4%
Manifesto	3%
Religion	2%
Caste	2%
Budget	1%
Temple visits	1%
Others	2%

Table 5: The subject-wise percentage of negative posts made by the BJP

Subject of the posts	Percentage of posts
About the Opposition party	47%
Corruption	21%
Religion	13%
Rahul Gandhi	6%
Caste	4%
Other party members	4%
Governance	3%
Others	2%



KNOW YOUR ENGLISH

People are calling him an empty vase

My niece suffers from neophobia. She refuses to watch any other movie other than her favourites

S. Upendran

"What is the pronunciation of vase? People pronounce it in different ways"

"That's true! The British and the Americans pronounce it very differently. The Americans make the word rhyme with 'face', 'base' and..."

"Case! That's how my friends and I pronounce the word."

"That's how many Indians pronounce the word. The British, on the other hand, pronounce the 'a' like the 'a' in 'bath', 'path' and 'ask'; the final 'se' like the 'z' in 'zip' and 'zoo'. They pronounce the word 'VAAZ'."

"So, should I pronounce it the way the British do or..."

"That's up to you! You know what the word 'vase' means, right?"

"Of course, I do! It's a container in which people generally place flowers."

"That's right! It's one of the meanings of the word, anyway."

"My friend has a collection of vases."

"That's nice. Do you know what the expression 'empty vase' means?"

"Empty vase? It's probably a vase without any flowers in it."

"When you refer to an individual as an 'empty vase', what does it mean?"

"The individual is like an empty vase. He has nothing inside his head."

"Very good! That's exactly what it means. When you say that someone is an empty vase, what you mean is that the individual is not very bright."

"To put it more bluntly, he's stupid."

"I guess you could say that."

"In other words, you can look at him, but can't have a meaningful conversation with him."

'That's right! Here's an example. I met Prashant's wife, Geetha, last week. She's not only beautiful but also very bright. Definitely not an empty vase."

"One can't say the same thing about Prashant, though. He's nothing more than an empty vase."

"Prashant's younger brother, on the other hand, is very bright. Unfortunately, he doesn't talk much. It takes him time to get to know someone. As a result, a lot of people write him off as an empty vase."

"That's true! He is awkward with people. He's not particularly fond of...."

"The problem with him is he doesn't like to do anything new. In fact, I would say that he's really terrified of trying or doing anything new. He's not..."

"The poor chap probably suffers from neophobia."

"Neophobia? I know that 'phobia' means the fear of something. But what.."

"And 'neo' means 'new'. Neophobia is the fear of new things. My grandmother refuses to use any of the modern gadgets like the cell phone and the computer. The doctor says it could be a case of neophobia."

"My cousin suffers from neophobia. So, whenever he goes to a restaurant, he'll order the same dish."

upendrankye@gmail.com

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

November 14 is observed as World Diabetes Day. A quiz on the rampant chronic disease

V.V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1
The inability to produce which important hormone causes Type 1 diabetes?

QUESTION 2
Why was November 14 chosen as World Diabetes Day?

QUESTION 3
What is the logo for World Diabetes Day which 'signifies the unity of the global diabetes community in response to the diabetes epidemic'?

QUESTION 4
What is the 13-lettered term used for increased fasting blood glucose concentration which is an indicator of a higher risk to diabetes?

QUESTION 5
According to the IDF Diabetes Atlas (2021), what percentage of the adult population (20-79 years) has diabetes, with almost half unaware that they are living with the condition?

QUESTION 5
What is the theme for World Diabetes Day 2021-23?

Visual question:
Whose logo is this?

Questions and Answers of the November 10 edition of the daily quiz:

1. This character in this book inspired the creation of a character in *The Matrix* movie. **Ans: Morpheus and *The Sandman***
2. This Gaiman novel was adapted into a feature-length film using stop-motion animation. **Ans: Coraline**
3. This episode of *Doctor Who* explores the doctor's relationship with TARDIS. This actor played the doctor. **Ans: The Doctor's Wife and Matt Smith**
4. The name of the magical, otherworldly market in Neil Gaiman's novel *Neverwhere*. **Ans: London Below**
5) In *The Graveyard Book*, the protagonist's family is murdered by called Somebody Owens. True or false? **Ans: False, his name is Nobody Owens**

Visual: The co-writer of the book. **Ans: Terry Pratchett**

Early Birds: Rashi Rahul| Kevin Toms Skaria

Word of the day

Refulgent:
radiating or as if radiating light

Synonyms: beaming, radiant, effulgent

Usage: *We saw a refulgent sunset today.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/refulgentpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɹəˈfʌldʒənt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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INBRIEF

Planters' association announces new office-bearers

The Karnataka Planters' Association (KPA), the apex body of coffee growers in the State, has announced its new committee of office-bearers for 2023-24. K.G. Rajeev has been appointed as chairman of the KPA and. A. Arvind Rao will be the vice-chairman, stated a KPA statement. The decision was taken at the 65th annual general meeting of the KPA held in Chikkamagaluru. Coffee planters Yeshwant R. Gurjer, Sameer Gurjer, A.P. Rajaram, M.C. Kariappa, I.B. Bopanna, P.M. Pavan Monnapp, M. Salman Naseer, and Krishanth Chowdlu have been chosen as members of the committee.

IAS officer transferred

Praveen P. Bagewadi, member, Karnataka Appellate Tribunal, Bengaluru, has been transferred with immediate effect and posted until further orders as managing director, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Development Corporation, Bengaluru. However, Mr. Bagewadi will continue to hold the post of member of the Karnataka Appellate Tribunal, Bengaluru, as concurrent charge until further order, according to a government notification.

'Release pending Central funds for irrigation projects'

T.B. Jayachandra, Sira MLA, Congress government's Special Representative in New Delhi, met Debashree Mukherjee, Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, and appealed for release of pending Central funds for irrigation projects in Karnataka. He pointed out that the Union Budget for 2023-24 had set aside assistance of ₹5,300 crore for implementing the Upper Bhadra project. However, funds are not released yet. He appealed to the Centre to speed up the release.

KEA restricts all forms of head cover in recruitment exams

Following protests by Hindutva groups, dress code now allows women to wear mangalasutra and toe ring in the exam hall

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Exams for recruitment to various boards and corporations are to be held on November 18 and 19 across the State. FILE PHOTO

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has announced a dress code for the recruitment exams of various boards and corporations to be held on November 18 and 19 across the State and stated that wearing "any garment or cap that covers head, mouth or ears" will not be allowed in the exam hall. The order states that this is part of the effort to stop exam malpractices using Bluetooth devices.

Though the dress code does not explicitly ban the hijab, it is implied by the new guidelines. Earlier, women wearing hijab had to be at the exam centres early for a thorough check, following which they were allowed into the halls.

"We are only taking all precautions strictly to avoid malpractice in the examination. Last time, some candidates used Bluetooth devices while writing the exam. Therefore, this time we have imposed the dress code and restricted any garment that covers the head, mouth or ears," S. Ramya, Executive Director, KEA, told *The Hindu*.

Earlier malpractice

The State government on Saturday ordered a probe by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) into an alleged scam in which candidates at Kalaburagi and Yadgir examination centres used Bluetooth devices for writing the exams conducted by the KEA in October.

Meanwhile, in another development, after opposition by various Hindutva groups and political leaders of the BJP, the KEA has decided to allow women to enter the hall wearing mangalasutra and toe ring (markers of a married Hindu woman) which were earlier not allowed, along with other items of metal jewellery. The circular specifically mentions that these two items are exempted from the dress code on jewellery.

The KEA order states that this is part of the effort to stop exam malpractices using Bluetooth devices

History of ban

In 2022, the Supreme Court had upheld the State government's decision on hijab ban in the classrooms which came under the jurisdiction of the Department of School Education and Literacy in Karnataka. Further, the State government had extended this order to other board exams such as classes X and XII and also the Common Entrance Test (CET) conducted by the KEA. But there is a separate dress code for entrance exams such as NEET and JEE.

But so far there was no specific restriction on the hijab for the recruitment exams conducted by the KEA. Therefore, the KEA had allowed the hijab in the exam held on October 28, 29, and 30, 2023. As all metal jewellery is restricted, women were not allowed to wear mangalasutra and toe rings in the hall. However, various Hindutva groups had protested against this. In an apparent bid to avoid controversy, these two have now been given exception.

According to the dress code, wearing any type of jewellery, high-heeled footwear, clothes with elaborate embroidery or bottom work, jeans pants, and T-shirts are restricted for girls. Boys should wear only half-sleeve shirt and pants, with sandals, and cannot tuck in their shirt.

Siddaramaiah

CM hits back at HDK for his comments on guarantees

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after the former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy urged the voters in the five poll-bound States "not to fall prey" to the Congress guarantees, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah hit back at the former asking why he "hates poor people".

Taking to social media platform X (formerly Twitter) he said, "Your baseless opposition means opposing the upliftment of poor families. It is time to introspect your intent. Crores of people have benefited from the guarantee schemes. Even the voters of the BJP & the JD(S) are celebrating the guarantee schemes. If you are sincerely concerned about the outcomes of the guarantee schemes, don't sit in Bengaluru and hold a press conference, go to the villages and talk to the beneficiaries there."

On Sunday, at a press conference, Mr. Kumaraswamy said, "The Congress has misled the people of Karnataka. The four guarantees of Gruha Lakshmi, Gruha Jyothi, Shakti, and Anna Bhagya have not reached all. Yuvanidhi has not started yet. The Congress is trying to mislead people of the five States."

The Chief Minister said in response, "I can understand your disappointment and frustration after the election defeat. But why do you hate poor people? Why are you opposing schemes designed for the welfare of the poor? Is this hate because they rejected your party in the election?"

Turning away deserving job aspirant just because uploaded certificate was illegible is not a happy thing to happen in a welfare State: HC

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Ltd. (KMF) turning away a deserving job aspirant merely because a document uploaded on the online recruitment portal was not legible is not a happy thing to happen in a welfare State, the High Court of Karnataka has said.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Krishna S. Dixit made the observations while allowing an appeal filed by a 32-year-old job aspirant, Devaraj P.R., of Bengaluru. He had questioned a single judge's order of upholding the KMF's action of considering him under the general merit category for the post of Accounts Assistant

Grade-I instead of under the reserved category on the ground that his caste certificate uploaded on the KMF's recruitment portal was illegible.

"The action of the KMF in shunting the appellant to the general merit category merely because the caste certificate, which he had uploaded was not clearly visible or that it was illegible, is absolutely unfair, to say the least," the Bench observed while pointing out that a simple intimation to the candidate about the so-called defect would have been sufficient to be compliant with the principles of natural justice. However the KMF had not undertaken the exercise of intimating the appellant about the illegibility of the uploaded certificate, the Bench noted.

Declining to accept the KMF's contention that the recruitment notification had stated that online applications with incomplete information and unclear documents would be rejected, the Bench said that it was not a case of a false or inadmissible caste certificate but the uploaded certificate was merely not legible.

Directive to KMF

The KMF could have asked the appellant to again upload or to produce the original certificate for verification as the recruitment notification had a provision for calling for the documents for verification or scrutiny, the Bench pointed out.

Also, the Bench directed the KMF to consider the original caste certificate of the appellant and consider him for the appointment to the post under the reserved category by creating a supernumerary post as the KMF had said that recruitment was completed to the post to which the appellant had applied for.

Vijayendra goes on meeting spree with Deve Gowda, SMK, Bommai

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

New role: Janata Dal (Secular) chief H.D. Deve Gowda felicitating the newly appointed president of the Karnataka BJP unit B.Y. Vijayendra in Bengaluru on Monday. ANI

Newly appointed BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra on Monday paid visits to the residences of the former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda and former Chief Ministers S.M. Krishna and Basavaraj Bommai.

After meeting with Mr. Gowda, Mr. Vijayendra told mediapersons that the Janata Dal (Secular) patriarch had advised him on how to strengthen the alliance by resolving some minor problems. The veteran leader stressed the need for maintaining unity within the alliance and avoiding any confusion in the interest of winning more number of seats in the Lok Sabha elections, he said.

HDD's advice

Mr. Vijayendra said the former Prime Minister had reminded him about his responsibility in the wake of a dominant party like the BJP choosing a young leader like him for a major post.

"He asked me to emulate my father (the former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa) who is known for touring the nooks and corners of the State to strengthen the party," Mr. Vijayendra added.

Meanwhile, Mr. Krishna said Mr. Vijayendra should reciprocate the gesture of the party's high command, which had identified his potential, by putting up a good performance in the Lok Sabha elections.

Similarly, Mr. Bommai, who is recuperating from cardiac surgery, hoped that the party's organisation would get further strengthened under Mr. Vijayendra's leadership.

To assume charge tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Newly appointed BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra is set to formally assume charge on Wednesday at the party State office Jagannatha Bhavan in Bengluru.

Sources in the BJP said that the party was thinking of holding a grand convention of party workers sometime in the last week of this month to mark the change of guard. Earlier, Mr. Vijayendra had indicated that the convention may be held on November 17. However, the party has put it off, triggering speculation that it may need time to assuage the hurt feelings of disappointed senior aspirants for the State president's post.

Ravi: I've never crossed 'Lakshman rekha' of BJP

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

C.T. Ravi

BJP leader and former Minister C.T. Ravi said if the party did not give him any responsibility, he would campaign for the party in his individual capacity.

Speaking to reporters in Chikkamagaluru on Monday, Mr. Ravi said he began his career with the BJP and never thought of joining any other party. "All through my career, I have voted for the BJP and sought votes for the party. I never thought of any other political party. If I am fed up with politics, I will sit at home, but will not join any party to do politics," he said.

Further, he said that he never crossed the "Lakshman rekha" of the party. "Whenever there were differences in the party, I did raise them within the party. I did not go to anybody else's house to point out my differences," he said.

Answering a question, Mr. Ravi said he would not be attending newly appointed president B.Y. Vijayendra's office-assuming ceremony on November 15. "Mr. Vijayendra spoke to me twice over the phone. I told him I would not attend the ceremony. I will be busy with my election work in Madhya Pradesh," he said.

Mr. Ravi is among those who have obliquely expressed disappointment with Mr. Vijayendra's appointment as the State party chief. On Saturday, to a question on Mr. Vijayendra's appointment being seen as dynasty politics, against which the BJP has repeatedly spoken in the past, Mr. Ravi said, "If I speak anything about this, there are chances of attaching a wrong meaning to it."

Furniture purchase

Referring to the purchase of furniture for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's residence, Mr. Ravi questioned the necessity of purchasing furniture by spending crores of rupees when farmers were facing difficulties due to drought. "The State government has declared 223 taluks as drought-hit. Mr. Siddaramaiah claims to be a socialist. We believe socialists lead a simple life. But it seems he and his Cabinet colleagues have adopted the policy of enjoying luxury by spending public money," he said.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

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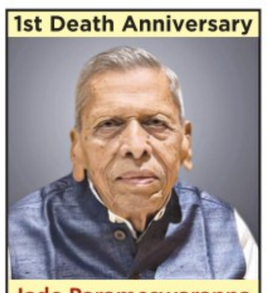

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Retired Principal, PDA Engineering College, Kalaburagi
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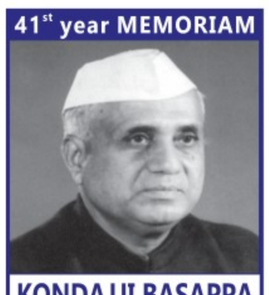

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Celebrating forests, documenting hope

'Forests of Life', the second edition of Azim Premji University's annual climate festival, sought to celebrate forests through an ensemble of art installations and photographs

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

We encounter fungi in various forms every day, but ever wondered how life on earth would be without fungi?

Shrey Gupta, environmental microbiologist and mushroom connoisseur, notes that life on land may not last very long without fungi.

"They are the decomposers of the planet. If fungi were not there, everything - including humans, plants and animals -would be covered in a pile of dirt," he says. Gupta was demonstrating his exhibit on the mycelial network displayed as part of the 'Forests of Life' festival held at Azim Premji University (APU).

'Forests of Life', the second edition of the university's annual climate festival, was unveiled in the first week of November. The festival sought to celebrate forests through an ensemble of art installations and photographs by young interns from across the country.

The festival also featured music, movies, artefacts, interactive workshops and performances by various communities.

Documenting forests

"We set up the festival in such a way that it is for the young by the young because children speak to children very well," said Dr. Harini Nagendra, Director, Research Centre and Centre for Climate Change, Azim Premji University. "We had an open call for internships and 130 interns were selected out of the applications received," she added.

The student interns travelled through 110 diverse forests across the country documenting their experiences and what they observed in the forests - from indigenous communities who nurture a deep connection with the forest to human-animal conflicts to forest guards who have dedicated their careers protecting the wildlife and more.

The festival which began with a tribute to forests of Biligiri Rangana Betta by Soliga tribal elders and presentation by students witnessed around 1,500 students visiting every day.

Unseen worlds

One of the main attractions of the fest was 'Living Tapestry', a terrarium built by 14-year-old Neil Thomas Abraham from Bengaluru.

The vivarium-style container built by Mr. Abraham, who is also the youngest of all the interns, simulated a river and forest ecosystem.

"This is to show how a clean and stable forest ecosystem is. Behind the container, it also depicts the unseen part of the forest ecosystem," said Neil explaining the installation.

Kunal Sharma faculty at the Azim Premji University.

Sacred forests

An exhibit by Lakshmi M., an intern from B.R. hills, gave a preview into the lives, livelihoods, sacred sites and traditional medicines of the Soliga community who live in the high hills in close association with the forests. Ms. Lakshmi who is a member of the Soliga community is a postgraduate and currently works with Punarchit NGO.

Explaining the exhibit, Lakshmi also spoke of the many beliefs and customs of the community which form their intricate and spiritual relationship with the forest.

"There are sacred sites within the forest like Veerugallu, Mane Devaru and Kallugudi. We go there, document it and gather information from the village elders," said Lakshmi.

"When there is deficit monsoon, people of the forest offer a special 'naivedya' and honey 'abhisheka' to a deity called Kadavina Basappa every year and pray for rainfall. The special pooja is followed by good rains. So that has remained a strong belief among the people."

"The learnings and knowledge will vanish with this generation of elders. So, our aim is to document it and pass it on to the generations to come."

"We have our own YouTube channel as well, called Soliga Traditional Knowledge. We shoot and upload videos there," she added,

The festival which began with a tribute to forests of Biligiri Rangana Betta by Soliga tribal elders and presentation by students witnessed around 1,500 students visiting every day.

Neil Thomas Abraham with his exhibit 'Living Tapestry.'

What is the world's largest organism? If your answer is blue whale, you are certainly wrong.

While the blue whale is the largest mammal on earth, the largest organism in the world is a mushroom, explains Shrey Gupta whose team set up the display on the fungi network.

Called honey mushroom, it is estimated to be more than 2,000 years old and covers more than 2,500 acres of the Malheur National Forest in the US.

Gupta noted that the display represented how fungi thrive in the forest and help sustain the ecosystem and other species on the planet. The network of fungi that is present under the soil helps trees connect to each other and exchange resources, he explained.

"An entire forest acts like a single conscious being through this network of fungi."

"Everything that's dead and decomposing is covered by the network of fungi. They are the garbage cleaners of the natural world, and they help decay and decompose everything," Gupta said.

Artwork by interns.

A session on identifying the different kinds of mushrooms and traditional recipes of mushrooms from around the world were also part of the exhibit.

Birds of Dandeli

Cholanaikkans of Nilambur, an indigenous community living in caves deep inside forests and whose population is as few as 285 approximately, featured in an exhibit by interns Jinu Jishana P., Farsana K.K. and Rana Nasnim.

Extremely reclusive, the community speaks a unique language, refuses to mingle with mainstream society and has been shrinking in numbers as a result of issues due to inbreeding.

Although the Kerala state government in 2013 built houses for them, the community members soon retreated to their caves.

"Their residences are marked as cave 1, cave 2 and so on as there are no houses. These kinds of stories give us an understanding of the complicated interactions people have with forests," said Dr. Kunal Sharma, faculty at APU.

"Another project by a student from Dharwar-Belgaum area focuses on the birds of Dandeli in Uttara Kannada, a highly biodiverse region. It is the region in Karnataka with the highest forest cover - 76%. But it is also highly impacted by development. There are several dams, one nuclear power plant and several factories," Dr. Sharma added.

Noting that the urban sprawl is only expanding every year, he emphasized the importance of protecting critical landscapes.

"The time for small scale efforts is over. We need to take it to a bigger scale now. We cannot bring back what is lost. We can only protect what is left. These are forests of hope, and the idea is the students who document these and see these will have hope," he said.

Registrations open for 16th Bengaluru Midnight Marathon

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Online registrations for all individual events have been officially announced for the 16th Bengaluru Midnight Marathon. The Marathon is scheduled to take place on Saturday, December 16, 2023, at Karnataka Trade Promotion Organisation (KTPO), Whitefield, Bangalore.

The theme for this year's BMM is aptly chosen as 'Run for Mental Wellness', a poignant acknowledgement of the crucial role physical activity plays in mental health.

Ritesh Bindal, Chairman, BMM 2023 shared, "In alignment with our 'Run for Mental Wellness' theme, we're excited to introduce the timed Rotary 5K Run, supporting both amateur and professional runners on their journey to longer distances.Therefore, to motivate all, we have introduced prize money awards in 4 age categories for both men and women."

Gul Mohamed, Race Director, BMM 2023 added, "RBITC's Bengaluru Midnight Marathon has received tremendous recognition since its inception.We believe that running can promote a healthier body and a happier mind, making it an essential element in our Marathon this year."

Organised by Rotary Bangalore IT Corridor (RBITC), the first edition of the Bengaluru Midnight Marathon was held on May 19, 2007 and has seen increasing participation every year since. It draws over 11,000 participants from 21 countries and 22 States in India, cementing its status as a global ambassador of long distance running.

President of Rotary Bangalore IT Corridor (RBITC) Rtn. Anil Danti shared, "BMM is the flagship fundraising event for RBITC's social service projects which are focusing on Education, Healthcare and Environment, with a strong focus on Women and Child Development."

The key individual events on December 16, 2023, will include the Full Marathon, Agriplast Half Marathon, 10k Run, Wissen Fun & Furious 5K Run (timed and untimed) and the new addition - Rotary 5K Run. Interested participants can secure their spots by visiting www.midnightmarathon.in

South Bengaluru residents resent entry of sewage into lakes and the lack of amenities

Issues faced by people frequenting Chunchaghatta, Doddakallasandra, Dorekere and Kothnur

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

In a survey conducted by Action Aid, an NGO, among people who engaged with lakes in some form, residents of South Bengaluru said challenges include unsafe walking paths during monsoon, plastic and garbage menace, stray dogs and cattle on the walkway, and water quality deterioration due to mixing of untreated water with the lake water.

The survey was conducted over a period of one week in October among 394 persons who engaged in some way with Chunchaghatta, Doddakallasandra, Dorekere and Kothnur lakes.

Around 83% of the respondents would frequent lakes while 43% lived in close proximity to a lake.

Sewage issue

Majority of the respondents complained of stinking smell emanating from the wetland and the larger lakes. More than 80 users of Doddakallasandra lake reported this issue. The corresponding figures for the other lakes were Dorekere – 47, Kothnur – 18, and Chunchaghatta – 10.

A File photo of Kothnur lake in Bengaluru.

The smell was the outcome of entry of sewage into the lakes.

People also reported unhygienic environment due to lack of maintenance of amenities, including toilets, and lack of garbage collection and disposal facilities near the lakes.

Walkway problems

A report by Action Aid following the survey noted that a common challenge expressed by respondents among all the four lakes was using the walking during monsoon. The respondents found the walking paths unsafe for senior citizens and children in particular.

Senior citizens cited encounters with stray dogs and cattle on the walking path as a major problem. A small number of respondents also reported problems with the lake fencing, lack of rain shelters, broken benches, inadequate lighting in few stretches, especially near Dorekere lake, ban on using camera, and allowing cyclists around the lakes.

A large number of respondents want the local government to fix amenities around the lakes, mainly walking paths and the toilets, and also improve facilities such as gym, park, shelter and seating.

A majority of the respondents from Kothnur and Chunchaghatta, and a large number of people from Dorekere and Doddakkallasandra want the authorities concerned to improve the quality of water in the lakes and address the entry of sewage into lakes.

Other demands included the installation of dust bins, information boards and sewage treatment plants, banning fishing licences, increased security and vegetation, and extended periods of usage of lakes. Respondents also suggested harvesting the plants in the wetlands and lakes at regular intervals to maintain water quality.

The NGO plans to submit the report to BBMP Chief Commissioner and Chief Engineer (Lakes).

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 14, 1973

No Indication of Full Drought Aid for Karnataka

Bangalore, Nov. 14: The uncertainty over the Centre's attitude on the question of reimbursement of the whole of the massive drought relief expenditure incurred by the Karnataka Government since last year, has not yet cleared.

The Finance Minister, Mr. M.Y. Ghorpade, who has just returned from Delhi after discussion with the Union Finance Minister and others on the tricky issue, reported to the Cabinet to-day on the outcome of this mission. According to informed sources, Mr. Ghorpade indicated to the Cabinet that he was making another trip to Delhi on November 21, along with the Chief Minister, to pursue the matter.

The delay in the settlement of the issue between the State Government and the Centre, besides the Centre's reported disapproval of certain items of the drought relief expenditure had caused considerable anguish to the State Government because of the repercussions on the State's financial position. Karnataka has been urging that the entire drought relief expenditure was the Centre's responsibility and that it should be reimbursed, particularly considering the Centre's reported assurances, from time to time, to that effect.

According to the Government statements, an expenditure of about Rs. 53 crores had been incurred on drought relief upto the end of June last, of which the Centre had reimbursed only Rs. 80 crores.

The State Government had incurred additional expenditure on drought relief subsequent to June last, and the sum involved is stated to be quite considerable., although the exact additional expenditure has not been spelt out.

CITYBEATS

The 'write' way

NOVEMBER 14, 15
Bring out the poet in you with this session on poetry. As it is being held on Children's Day, the focus will be on discussing poetry on childhood. The following day there will also be a music jam, where you can get to flex your voice as well as your musical instruments.
At Lahe Lahe, at 7.30pm on both days

When health meets taste

ON WEEKENDS
Justbe by Nidhi Nahata, a plant-based restaurant, has launched vegan vegetable crepe rolls. These handcrafted rolls are made with in-house crepes filled with tofu, an array of crisp vegetables and micro-greens. Priced at ₹280 plus taxes, these will be served on weekends.
Call 95138 04561

Sit back and chill

NOVEMBER 17
This one is called the Friday Tipsy Jazz and will be on at The Drawing Room by Smoke House Deli. You can listen to some soulful live jazz music by Sabrina and sip on some of the restaurant's signature cocktails and sparkling wine, to bring your week to a close.
8pm onwards. Call 8657738861 to reserve your place

Food, flavour and fusion

This festive season, if you feel like eating healthy, indulge in these recipes from Karnataka painstakingly compiled by Latha Holla

Ranjani Govind

While browsing recipes online, the carrot *holige* recipe using wheat flour catches the eye. "Usually *holige* is made with *maida* to give the dough the required elasticity to roll it out, says Latha Holla, of vegrecipesofkarnataka.com. Repeated requests for a healthier option saw Latha create the wheat flour variant. "It was an instant hit."

Latha has nearly a thousand traditional recipes from Karnataka on her website, most of which can also be viewed on her YouTube channel.

Born in Jayapura town near Shringeri (Chikkamagalur district) to Anandarama Aithal and Shantha Aithal, her family can trace their roots to Ujire (near Dharmastala) and Kundapura. Latha came to Bengaluru in 2001 to study Electronics and later worked in various firms. She quit her day job as a design engineer in an electronic equipment R&D company in 2011 to pursue her passion for culinary art.

"My husband Raghavendra Holla is a medical professional whose work took us to different cities including Cochin, Hyderabad and Pune," says Latha. "With my family expanding I found it easier to resign my job and follow my passion, although it required some effort to understand gastronomy."

The website was Latha's way of chronicling all she had learnt about the dishes she had enjoyed over the years. "My interest in familiarising myself with the recipes of Karnataka ended being stowed away in books after I tried them out in the kitchen. A website to document those dishes seemed the logical next step."

Her collection of recipes is a journey that goes back more than a hundred years of recipes shared by her grandmothers, mother and aunts, from various regions of Karnataka. "Documenting family recipes wasn't just a responsibility, but something I loved. I wanted to expand this effort to include dishes from my home state Karnataka. During my years of study and work, I understood the nuances of region-specific tastes, courtesy of the many people I met," says Latha.

"The more I saw people proudly documenting their own cuisine, the more I was convinced to put up a site for recipes from Karnataka," says Latha, who began vegrecipesofkarnataka.com in 2015

Carrot holige
To prepare the *kanaka* (dough): Take a cup of wheat flour with a pinch of salt in a bowl. Knead it into a slighter softer consistency than chapati dough with required water. Add a few spoons of oil and keep it aside for half an hour.
To prepare the sweet *hoorana* (stuffing): Heat a tsp of ghee in a pan. Add in a cup of grated carrot, 1/4 cup finely grated coconut and 1/2 cup of powdered jaggery. Stir it until the extra moisture disappears. Switch off the stove and wait until warm.
To prepare the *holige:* Stuff a lime-sized portion of *hoorana* inside the flattened *kanaka,* cover it, and roll it out. Use flour when required to keep it from sticking. Carefully remove it with both hands, cook it on the *tava* on both sides using ghee.

Labour of love Latha Holla and dishes from her site. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Ranganna, the cook at the PG hostel Latha was staying when she was studying in Bengaluru made the best tomato *baath, huliyanna* (tamarind rice) and coconut rice, according to Latha. "Today, there are three variants of tomato *baath* on the site – one without onion and garlic, Ranganna's version with garlic, and my creation with onion-ginger and tomato puree." Most of her recipes come with a minimum of three to four variations, tuned to regional specifications in Karnataka, says Latha.

When Latha worked at L&T in Mysore at the JSS Women's Hostel, her exposure to *ragi mudde* (ragi ball) and *molake-kaal sambar* (sprouted bean sambar), *khara pongal, bisibelebaath, masale dose* and *poori* variants of this region was an eye opener. "Visiting my friends at Mysuru, Hassan, Kolar, Tiptur, Ballary, Hospete, introduced me to *bassaru, uppsaru, vaangibath* and *rave unde*. *Badnekaay yennagaai* (a brinjal preparation) in Mysuru is quite different from the North Karnataka variant with *hucchellu* (niger seeds). Every dish has a twist according to where it is prepared, even the *gram-flour jhunka* of North Karnataka has three variants."

Latha's aunt from Malnad taught her to make different types of vegetable *pulav*, chapati, *goli baje* (Mangalore *bonda*), *shankara pali* and cabbage *baath*. "It was she who also exposed me to mouth-watering teatime snacks such as *chattaambode* (a variant of *masale vade*) and *kadalekaal usli*," she says. "*Panchakajjaya* with *channa daal*, jaggery, coconut, sesame or cashew and ghee is another speciality."

Signature recipes from Latha's family include *Haal baayi* – a rice-jaggery-coconut cake; *chakli* made with rice and urad dal, *kodbale*, and the sweet, mini, steamed rice balls *seke undlaka*.

For Latha it was a dream come true to see her website gain traction soon after its launch. "People were going through not only my family's recipes, but also those which had my personal tweaks such as *kesari baath* and *badaam puri,*" says Latha.

Vegrecipesofkarnataka.com grew steadily also for its categories that included dishes for festivals, bachelors, sweets, savouries and dishes with medicinal value that include ingredients such as oregano, mint, curry leaves and spinach.

Differentiating between *obbattu* and *holige,* Latha says, "*Obbattu* is flattened with your hands and is slightly thick, while *holige* is flattened with a rolling pin on banana leaf or *holige* sheet and is therefore flatter."

Latha remembers how her grandfather Vasudeva Holla, from Ujire would make sweets and savouries by the hundreds during religious functions. "With Karnataka's rich legacy in food history and favourites such as *bisibele baath, rava idli, Mysore paak* and *haal baayi* on its list of creations, I could easily add 2,000 recipes to the site. I look forward to continuing this journey of preserving our food heritage."

Be a planet watcher

Ruth Dhanaraj

The recently concluded second edition of Jacaranda Tales is being screened online till November 15. Jacaranda Tales is a film festival dedicated solely to climate change and related topics.

The theme of this year's festival which ran from October 6 to 10 was Climate Resilience.

The second edition of Jacaranda Tales was organised by the Bangalore Sustainability Forum, Bangalore Film Society, Kriti Film Club, Gamana Women's Collective, Environment Support Group, Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Karnataka Gandhi Smaraka Nidhi and Mount Carmel College.

Mukund Krishna Kumar, one of the members of the Bangalore Sustainability Forum (BSF) says the first edition of Jacaranda Tales held last year, was themed Women and Nature, and was jointly arranged by the BSF and Bangalore Film Society.

"Every year, the theme of the festival is in connection to nature, sustainability and the like, as one of the mandates of the Bangalore Sustainability Forum is to promote conversations on the same and create forums for people to come together and learn."

While their primary motive is to make the conversation on climate change more accessible through different formats, Mukund says, "Films are a great way to tell a story and spread information, and we hope they kickstart the conversation on climate change at different places, with different people."

Working on this idea, the organisers split this year's festival at two venues – Gandhi Bhavan and Mount Carmel College. "We felt taking this festival to college students was an important part of spreading awareness about climate change."

In the same vein, the organisers made it a non-ticketed event, free and open to all.

"We didn't want to put any restrictions on those who would like to attend," says Mukund.

During the in-person event of the festival, 20 films were screened over four days, with a panel discussion post the movie during which topics such as green energy, biodiversity conservation, climate change strategy and more were explored every day.

Panellists for these talks included researchers, activists, documentary filmmakers and others in the field; these discussions were open to questions and interaction from the audience.

"As in-person events are restrictive in terms of time and geography, we have made these films available online as we did last year," says Mukund, adding, "There is no need to sign up, login or register. Just go to the site and watch the films."

The Jacaranda Tales Online Film Festival in on till November 15. View the movies here: https://doculive.blogspot.com/p/jacaranda-tales-online-second-edition.html

Green screen Documentary filmmaker Julia Haslett at Jacaranda Tales. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

An outdated serving of sporty fare

Director Yogaraj Bhat's *Garadi,* starring Yashas Soorya in the lead, is a generic film that does very little to make us care for a dying sport

FILM REVIEW

Vivek MV

Director Yogaraj Bhat, known for collaborating with A-list actors, first worked with newcomers in *Panchatantra* (2019), a film based on the 'The Tortoise and the Hare'. Despite its inconsistencies, Bhat's writing packed a punch, as the movie, touted to be Kannada cinema's first auto racing film, turned out to be a decent entertainer. *Garadi* is Bhat's second film without stars, and he has moved away from his preferred genre of romance. But unlike *Panchatantra,* this film – a wrestling drama in a rustic setting – has no aspects that will impress admirers of the filmmaker.

The film begins with the head of the Raane dynasty (essayed by P Ravi Shankar) wanting his sons to emerge as mud wrestling champions to carry the family's legacy forward. They join veteran coach Rangappa (B C Patil) to master the sport. Away from the world of affluent people, two young brothers from a humble background dream of becoming champion wrestlers. They are, however, denied their right by those with money and power.

Lacking punch A still from *Garadi*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Circumstances land the elder one in jail, after which Rangappa bans the younger one, Soori (Yashas Surya) from entering the *akhada* (wrestling ground). However, Soori watches his coach from the sidelines and practices to become a wrestler.

Garadi begins well, as Bhat keeps us interested in the world of wrestlers. Even if nothing is extraordinary, the film is watchable until the romantic track involving Soori and Pappi Sukanya (Sonal Monteiro) derails the plot.

From *Gaalipata 2,* the director's previous work, it is evident that Bhat has lost the confidence to portray intense, mature relationships, perhaps bogged down by the challenge of catering to a different generation. The trivial love story is pulled down further by underwhelming songs from Bhat's long-time collaborator V Harikrishna.

Once a sensitive filmmaker who wrote strong-willed female roles, the treatment of the heroine in *Garadi* is uncharacteristic of him. The heroine is showcased as a cheerleader to boost the hero's male saviour syndrome. A rape scene is staged crudely, and a 'special' number starring Nishvika Naidu has zero purpose. Apart from such aspects, even the uninventive cinematography from Niranjan Babu adds to the outdated nature of the movie.

In the second half, *Garadi* attempts to be an action thriller, but the twists are too weak, and the drama is dull. Even a cameo from superstar Darshan feels like an effort to repair a shoddy climax. Films like *Dangal* and *Sultan* are engaging sports dramas as they follow the lead character's growth.

In a career spanning more than 25 years, Bhat boasts a memorable body of work, mainly because of his ability to remain unique even in his not-so-convincing films. As for *Garadi,* only he can explain how and why he made his blandest film till date.

Garadi is currently running in theatres

Garadi (Kannada)
Director: Yogaraj Bhat
Cast: Yashas Soorya, P Ravi Shankar, B C Patil, Dharmanna Kadur, Sonal Monteiro
Runtime: 150 minutes
Storyline: Soori aims to be a wrestling champion. When his idol and veteran coach bans him, how does he pursue his dream?

Will Owaisi deny his BJP links, asks Revanth

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Alleging that AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi was close to Bharatiya Janata Party leaders, Telangana Congress president A. Revanth Reddy challenged him to take oath on the Koran at Mecca Masjid whether he had not hosted a senior leader close to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah at his residence.

Mr. Reddy alleged that the BJP leader was hosted at the Shastripuram residence of Mr. Owaisi and said, "If this is not true, let Mr. Owaisi condemn and take an oath on the holy book at Mecca Masjid. I am ready to take an oath at the Bhagyalakshmi temple".

Flood banks will be built along Godavari river: KCR

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao vows to fortify flood protection system in Bhadrachalam; asks people not to allow money power to win against welfare schemes of the BRS

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Addressing a gathering at an election meeting at Burgampadu in the Pinapaka Assembly constituency of Bhadradri Kothagudem district on Monday, Telangana Chief Minister and Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) supremo K. Chandrashekhar Rao said, "Flood banks will be constructed along the Godavari river in Bhadrachalam at an estimated cost of ₹1,000 crore to fortify the flood protection system".

Mr. Rao said he had visited the flood-affected areas in Bhadrachalam and carried out first-hand assessment of the situation in July last year.

Poll promises: Telangana CM and BRS chief K. Chandrashekhar Rao addresses a public meeting in Warangal on Monday. PTI

The State government subsequently disbursed financial aid of ₹10,000 each to as many as 14,000 families affected by floods in Bhadrachalam and constructed houses for some flood victims, he recalled.

Thanks to a major thrust on the development of healthcare infrastructure, every constituency now has a 100-bed State-run health facility, he said.

Taking a jibe at YSRTP president Y.S. Sharmila and the Telangana Congress party, Mr. Rao at a meeting in Narsampet of Warangal said, "They (Congress leaders) are hell bent on defeating the BRS using money power". "Will you let their money power win against the welfare schemes of the BRS?" he asked the gathering.

Mr. Rao called upon people to vote with a purpose.

'Task force will be formed to implement SC categorisation'

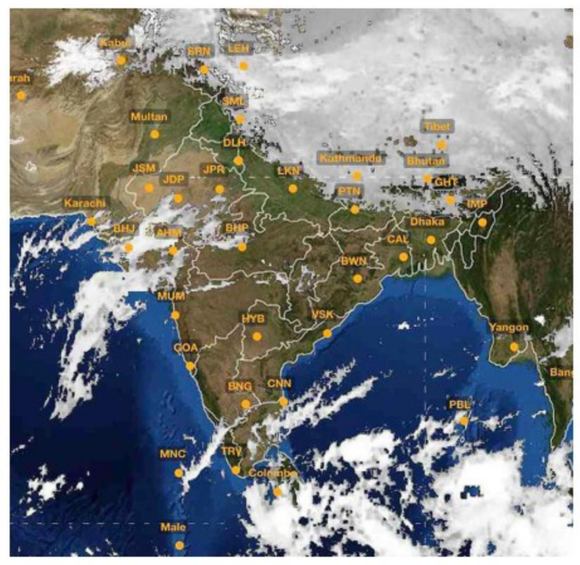
The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement of forming a fresh committee on the Scheduled Castes (SC) categorisation at the public meeting organised by the Madiga Reservation Porata Samithi (MRPS) will actually be a task force to follow up the issue legally in the Supreme Court, hold discussions with various stakeholders and ensure speedy implementation of the same, Telangana BJP president and Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy has said.

"The proposed task force will not look into whether categorisation is necessary or not," he told presspersons on Monday.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Yanam and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	32.6	18.7	Kozhikode	—	33.4	24.4
Ahmedabad	—	29.9	15.6	Kurnool	—	33.1	21.2
Aizawl	—	29.7	17.0	Lucknow	—	28.5	15.7
Allahabad	—	30.3	17.5	Madurai	—	31.7	22.6
Bengaluru	—	28.2	17.5	Mangaluru	—	30.8	23.2
Bhopal	—	29.5	14.6	Mumbai	—	36.6	23.6
Bhubaneswar	—	30.1	21.0	Mysuru	—	31.0	21.4
Chandigarh	—	29.2	13.4	New Delhi	—	27.3	11.8
Chennai	—	32.1	25.0	Patna	—	30.7	17.5
Coimbatore	—	30.2	20.2	Port Blair	64	28.4	22.8
Dehradun	—	27.5	11.8	Puducherry	—	29.2	23.6
Gangtok	—	19.9	11.5	Pune	—	31.8	19.3
Goa	—	33.8	22.6	Raipur	—	31.6	20.5
Guwahati	—	31.0	17.0	Ranchi	—	26.9	17.0
Hubballi	—	33.0	20.0	Shillong	—	22.1	10.6
Hyderabad	—	31.4	19.8	Shimla	—	20.4	11.4
Imphal	—	27.9	11.7	Srinagar	—	15.9	1.5
Jaipur	—	28.2	15.3	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.2	24.2
Kochi	—	31.8	25.0	Tiruchi	—	30.7	23.4
Kohima	—	20.4	10.0	Vijayawada	—	32.4	22.6
Kolkata	—	31.0	21.5	Visakhapatnam	—	31.2	25.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.11	.10	.12	226	208	
Bengaluru	.15	.20	.63	249	155	
Chennai	.38	.44	.98	304	211	
Delhi	.42	.11	.58	438	360	
Hyderabad	.26	.36	.58	246	227	
Kolkata	.7	.10	.35	275	217	
Lucknow	.19	.37	.59	284	215	
Mumbai	.63	.53	.20	307	295	
Pune	122	198	112	332	254	
Visakhapatnam	.7	.47	.47	322	232	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Begusarai, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 393 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Ooty, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 33

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

T.N. to soon bid adieu to decades-old prison manual

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu will soon replace its decades-old prison manual derived from the jail laws of the British era with a new set of rules that will be guided by the Model Prisons and Correctional Services Act, 2023.

The draft of the new prison manual, which is in its final stages of completion, will be sent to the State Government for approval. Amaraesh Pujari, Director-General of Police, Prisons and Correctional Services, is hopeful the process will be completed in a couple of months.

Outdated and obsolete

After deciding that the outdated laws related to prisons should be reviewed and revised suitably, the Ministry of Home Affairs assigned the task to the Bureau of Police Research and Development, which in consultation with State prison authorities and correctional experts, prepared the Model Prisons and Correctional Services Act, 2023.

Police fight suspected Maoists in Kerala

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A firefight broke out between a team of the Kerala Police Thunderbolts and suspected Maoists early on Monday at Uruppumkutty village near Iritty in Kannur district.

A top official said the special commando team recovered three abandoned guns after the incident. The police also found bloodstains near the locality. There were no reports of casualities or injuries, he said. Nevertheless, the police are scouring hospitals and clinics in Kannur and Mangaluru in Karnataka for any recent admissions with injuries.

Thunderbolts team and police personnel camping near Uruppumkutty village in Kannur. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The police are also inspecting vehicles on the Kannur-Mangaluru route and have alerted their Karnataka counterparts.

The Thunderbolts had engaged suspected Maoists in a gunbattle at Thalappuzha in Wayanad district on November 8 and arrested two persons, said to be top cadres of the Banasura Dalam of the Communist Party of India (Maoist).

The police also seized an AK-47 assault rifle and two country-made shotguns. At least three suspected Maoists had broken out of the police siege and escaped then.

However, the police are unclear if the suspected Maoists in Kannur were part of the group the police had engaged in Wayanad.

Centre delaying payment of dues to Kerala on technicalities, says Minister

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Kerala Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal has said the Centre is delaying the payment of what is due to the State on flimsy grounds, citing technical reasons. The Centre owed the State a chunk of what it had already spent as well as its other dues. The denial of payments is a violation of the spirit of the Centre-State relationship, he said.

The State and the Centre are not locked in a slave-and-master relationship, the Minister said addressing a press conference in Kochi on Monday.

He acknowledged that the State had received some of the outstanding payments under various heads, including social welfare pensions, but pointed out that the pre-

V. Muraleedharan and, right, K.N. Balagopal

sent Finance Commission allocation rate had now dipped to 1.9% from the 2.5% and 3.9% previously. Even if the State was paid according to the 2.5% rate, it should get ₹8,000 to ₹9,000 crore extra, Mr. Balagopal added.

The Centre-State relationship was not just mired in financial issues, he claimed and pointed out that there were political as well as administrative issues involved.

Mr. Balagopal slammed Union Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan who had earlier alleged that the Kerala government's financial problems were its own creations and that it was splurging money without exercising prudence.

"Mr. Muraleedharan is trying to make a fool of the people of Kerala through his statements," the Finance Minister added.

'Baseless contention'

Mr. Muraleedharan on Monday termed 'baseless' the Kerala government's contention that the Centre was primarily responsible for the State's financial problems.

Blaming extravagance and financial mismanagement by the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government for the financial crunch, Mr. Muraleedharan presented a set of statistics on Central transfers. He added that the State had received funds in all eligible instances. However, funds may have been withheld in instances where the State had either failed to apply within the deadline or adhere to norms.

(With inputs from Thiruvananthapuram)

Project: CM to lay stone

The Hindu Bureau
GUNTUR

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy is scheduled to lay the foundation stone for the construction of the Varikapudisela Lift Irrigation Scheme near Gangulakunta village in Veldurthi mandal of Palnadu district on Wednesday. Lift irrigation scheme, which has been on the cards for almost six decades now, is a drought mitigation project which, once commissioned, would go a long way towards changing the landscape of arid district.

13th ANNIVERSARY

Mr. S. Palaniappan B.Com., FCA.,
(Former President-All Kerala Paper Merchants Association, President-Tamil Sangham, Nagarathar Association, Cochin)
A Fountainhead of Knowledge and always a source of inspiration, Your Strong Leadership, Hard Work, Ethics, Principles and Values will continue to guide us. Your Vision will motivate us forever.
Fondly remembered by
Wife: Smt. Pappa Palaniappan
Daughters: Mrs. Meena Anu & Mrs. Meenakshi Kannan
Son-in-Laws: Mr. Anu Avirachan, Mr. Chinniah Kannan
Grandson: Aakarsh Anu Avirachan
Granddaughter: Mrinalini Uma Kannan & All Staffs
PANDIYAN MEENA PAPER COMPANY (EKM) & (CBE)
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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Zilla Panchayath, Ballari.
Office of Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Ballari.
No.: EE/RDWS&SD/B/JE-2/JJM/Tender.Nofi/2023-24/1541
Dated:08-11-.2023
E-tender Notification (KTTP Act 2000)
On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Ballari hereby calls the e-tender for execution works under Jal Jeevan Mission, Head sandur, Siraguppa and Ballari Taluks works through **Karnataka Public Procurement Portal** for bidders who are registered by Public work department. The information regarding tenders will be made available in **(https:// kppp.karnataka.gov.in/)** website & Tender document download date **10-11-2023** The last date to receive the tender from eligible bidders is at 04.00 pm on **20-11-2023** Date of opening of Technical Bid is at 05.00 pm on **21-11-.2023** and Pre-bid meeting is held at Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Ballari, Above SBI Bank, Sudha Cross, Cantonment at 11.00 am on 15-11-2023 For any tender related quarries or more information bidders can contact above said office or e-procurement help desk up to 15-11-2023 at 4.00 pm.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, RDW & S Division, Ballari.
DIPR/Ballari/ 419 /KSMCA/2023-24

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned by Government of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement)
BESCOM invites tenders through e-procurement platform from eligible Bidders for Enquiry Nos.: BESCOM/2023-24/UC/WORK_INDENT36 and BESCOM/2023-24/UC/WORK_INDENT37 for **"Repairs / Rectification of faults in HT/LT Underground Cable in North & West Circle jurisdiction of BESCOM for a period of two years on total turnkey basis". Bid documents available:** 16.11.2023. **Last date for bid submission:** 01.12.2023 15:00 Hrs. **Opening of bid documents:** 02.12.2023 15:15 Hrs.
The Tenders can be obtained through kppp portal web-site **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. Aspiring Bidders need to register on kppp portal. Further Bidders can take assistance with kppp help desk contact numbers (+91-8046010000, +91-8068948777) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com.
Sd/-
For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download "BESCOM Mithra" Mobile APP
The General Manager (Ele.), Procurement, BESCOM

TDP-JSP alliance in A.P. comes up with 11-point 'mini manifesto'

The Hindu Bureau
VIJAYAWADA

The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and Jana Sena Party (JSP) in Andhra Pradesh have come up with a draft mini manifesto consisting of 11 points at the first meeting of their six-member joint manifesto committee held at the TDP State office on Monday.

The mini manifesto is a combination of the TDP's 'super-six schemes' announced at its annual Mahanadu-2023 conclave, and five points suggested by the JSP on the basis of feedback received by party chief Pawan Kalyan in the course of his public interactions over the last four-and-a-half years.

Members of the TDP and JSP attending a joint manifesto committee meeting at the TDP office in Guntur district on Monday.

The manifesto contains plans for the welfare and empowerment of women, creating jobs for the youth, giving a subsidy of ₹10 lakh on the cost of projects undertaken by MSMEs and start-up companies, measures for solving the issues faced by farmers and other welfare schemes.

Sri Lanka releases 42 fishermen from T.N.

The Hindu Bureau
RAMESWARAM

A total of 42 fishermen hailing from Tamil Nadu were released from the prisons in Sri Lanka and are expected to reach home in about four days, said fishermen association leader P. Jesu Raja on Monday.

In three different incidents in October, the Sri Lankan Navy personnel arrested 64 fishermen and impounded 10 of their mechanised boats on charges of poaching. The incident had drawn protest from fishermen associations.

GOVERNMENT OF KARANATAKA
(BHADRA COMMAND AREA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, MALAVAGOPPA, SHIVAMOGGA)
ಸಂ:ಕಾ.ಇಂ/ಭ.ಕಾ/ವಿ–2/ರಾಬೆ/4705/2023–24/376 Dt : 13.11.2023
TENDER NOTIFICATION IFT-02
(Through e-procurement portal only)
On behalf of the Administrator, Bhadra CADA, Malavagoppa, Shivamogga, The under signed invites tenders under the H/A 4705 from Class-IV & III and above contractors for 20 works (17 Ayacut road works & 03 field Drains works) which Amount to Rs.269.07 Lakhs, for the year 2023-24. The tenders are invited in (KW-1&KW-2) bid document through http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and in single cover system as per KTPP Act -1999 & rules 2000. The bidders can access to e-tender from 13.11.2023 to 22.11.2023 till 4.30 pm, Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications is 20.11.2023 4.30 pm. financial bid will be opened on 23.11.2023 at 5.00 pm from competent authority at the office of Executive Engineer, Engineering Division No-2, Bhadra CADA, Ranebennur.
Sd/- Executive engineer, Engineering division-2, Bhadra CADA, Ranebennur-581115.
762

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ.
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಯೋಜನೆ ಅಡಿ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ ಸಾಧನ ಸಲಕರಣೆ, ಯಂತ್ರೋಪಕರಣ, ಪಿಠೋಪಕರಣಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿವರ ಹಾಗೂ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ.
1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕ್ರಮಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ದಿನಾಂಕ: ಜಿಆಕುಕಅವಿ/ಪೂರೈಕೆ/ವಿವ/02/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.11.2023
2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 51.90 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು.
3) ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 1,29,750/–
4) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಪಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ): 13.11.2023 ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆ.
5) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ: 24.11.2023 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆ.
6) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ: 27.11.2023 ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.
7) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ಪಡೆದ ಬಿಡ್‌ದಾರರ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29.11.2023 ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವುದು.
ಸಹಿ/– ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ವಿಜಯಪುರ
ವಾಸಾಸಂ೧/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/277/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2023–24

Growth dichotomy

Slowdown in industrial output growth shows low consumer confidence

In September, the Index of Industrial Production or IIP rose 5.8%, almost half the 14-month-high 10.3% growth in August. Most economists anticipated a 7% to 8% uptick in the month that marks the onset of India's packed festive calendar. September's factory output growth was the slowest in three months, but also marked a 2.4% drop in production levels compared to August. Manufacturing led the decline, with year-on-year growth dropping from 9.3% in August to 4.5% in September and production volumes declining 2% month-on-month. In August, just seven of 23 manufacturing sectors had clocked a contraction but that list expanded to nine in September, with furniture dropping 20% and apparel production almost 18%. What is more worrying is that 12 sectors recorded a sequential decline in output this September, belying hopes that firms would ramp up inventories in anticipation of festive spending. Producers' lack of confidence in consumers' impulses is reflected in consumer durables and non-durables, which were up just 1% and 2.7%, respectively, on top of a 5.5%-plus contraction last September. Sequentially, consumer non-durables, what one may broadly consider as fast moving consumer goods involving smaller-ticket spends, were down 3.5% with the lowest output levels seen since November 2022. Electricity generation also fell 6.6% sequentially in September, perhaps due to the higher rainfall recorded over August.

On the whole, September's IIP takes average factory output growth to 7.4% in the second quarter, lifting the uptick in the first half of 2023-24 to 6%. This may still weigh in well with the central bank chief's hopes of Q2 GDP growth outpacing their official projection of 6.5%. But spliced up, the IIP indicates an asymmetry in the economy and a fresh fork lies in the road ahead. Consumer goods' output was just 0.3% higher than pre-COVID-19 levels this September, with durables being the only use-based segment to record a contraction so far this year. By contrast, output has been more resilient in investment-linked sectors such as infrastructure/construction goods and capital goods, up 12.1% and 6.7%, respectively, this year. Public capex on infrastructure sectors has surely lifted output of items such as steel and cement through the first half of the year, while high inflation has eaten into all but the high-income consumers' propensity to spend. Going forward, capex spends that have been front-loaded this year may moderate and additional revenue spends ahead of the Lok Sabha election are likely, especially with sensitive commodities such as fuel, urea and food facing fresh volatility in prices. That infrastructure and construction goods' output in September was the lowest since March 2023, suggests one growth tide may be ebbing, which makes the other, more fragile consumption story even more critical to watch.

Knockout blows

India has so far played its part as the favourite in the cricket World Cup

The cricket World Cup finally enters its business end, having criss-crossed India since the first match involving England and New Zealand at Ahmedabad on October 5. In their backyard, Rohit Sharma's men have exuded a dominant aura, brushing aside opposition units, be it the fancied ones or the emerging outfits. Nine wins on the trot is a remarkable achievement. The Men in Blue have batted with elan, and bowled with zest; they rode smooth in all their contests to top the league phase with 18 points. Having won the World Cup in 1983 and 2011, India is eyeing a third tryst with glory. New Zealand is the hurdle in the semifinal at Mumbai on Wednesday. During the 2019 edition in England, India wilted against New Zealand in the semifinal. However, this time around, having defeated their doughty rivals at Dharamshala in the league stage, Indian cricketers believe that they can get past Kane Williamson's men. New Zealand qualified from a mid-table clutter involving Pakistan and Afghanistan, and has a new-generation star in prolific batter Rachin Ravindra. Always a team in which the whole is greater than the sum of the parts, New Zealand can be a tricky opposition and India, despite its current form, is aware of the knockout stage pitfalls. In the 2015 edition too, India lost in the semifinal.

Currently, Rohit's men are in such ominous form that even the absence of injured all-rounder Hardik Pandya has not affected their plans. Rohit, Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer and K.L. Rahul have prospered, while the bowling, helmed by Jasprit Bumrah, has run through startled opposition ranks. India, though, is yet to win an ICC title since the last triumph at the Champions Trophy in 2013. A 10-year drought needs to be addressed and there could be a shot at redemption when the dust settles at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium after the final on November 19. South Africa and Australia, the other semifinalists, at different points have displayed form and fragility. Powered by Glenn Maxwell's unbeaten 201 against Afghanistan, Australia has the x-factor while South Africa has depth even if skipper Temba Bavuma's runs have dried up. That defending champion England and past powerhouses like Pakistan and Sri Lanka have crashed, is a pointer to the flux within cricket. Even as the host flourished, the most heartening story of this World Cup is the growth revealed by a pugnacious Afghanistan and to some extent, the Netherlands. To widen its footprints, the willow game needs these teams to evolve.

Enhancing representation, for a just electoral system

Feroze Varun Gandhi

is a Member of Parliament, representing the Pilibhit constituency for the Bharatiya Janata Party

An Indian Member of Parliament (MP) is said to represent 2.5 million citizens, on average. In comparison, a U.S. House of Representatives member typically represents approximately 7,00,000 citizens. Similarly, in Pakistan, a member of the National Assembly is a representative of approximately 6,00,000 citizens, while the ratio in Bangladesh is closer to approximately 5,00,000 citizens. In this year so far, India had around 4,126 Members of the Legislative Assembly, 543 Lok Sabha MPs and 245 Rajya Sabha MPs. There are far too few parliamentarians/Assembly members responsible for citizen welfare in India. Limited representation, in a democratic setup, seems to be our default preference.

While India does have innumerable grassroots politicians, 1,000-plus municipal councils/corporations with between 50 to 100 wards and approximately 2,38,000 panchayats (according to Press Information Bureau data) with between five to 30 members on average at the national/State level, there is a clear deficit in terms of their adequate representation in order to raise critical issues and enable law-making.

Meanwhile, our political system is riven with malapportionment, with legislative weight being skewed towards the citizens of select States. Unlike India, the United States has a political system that seeks to engender malapportionment, with each State given two senators in the U.S. Senate, enabling a block on legislation. Disproportionate allocation of power is encouraged. This is easier in a homogeneous country with a bi-party political system, where the same parties compete across all States. In India, with its heterogeneous political system across States, malapportionment can mean empowering select political outfits over others. With a sense of a different political culture in south and north-east India growing, one must tread carefully.

On delimitation

Delimitation could be a potential solution to restore proportionality – it has been utilised in the past. The Commission was set up four times in the past as an independent body, to enable redistricting. In 1976, during the Emergency, the number of Lok Sabha seats was frozen, with delimitation pushed out to 2001, citing ongoing family planning policies, with a push to avoid punishing select States with effective population control measures in place.

Delimitation may have resumed when States had reduced their fertility rates, enabling parity. In February 2002, the 84th Amendment Act of the Constitution was introduced, which froze the number of Lok Sabha seats until the first Census after 2026 (i.e., 2031). With the 2021 Census delayed (now likely to be conducted in 2024, with results potentially published by 2026), there is a window to conduct delimitation earlier. However, unleashing delimitation will have its consequences. Between 1971 and 2011, Rajasthan and Kerala, at 25 million and 21 million in population in 1971, respectively, have seen a widening to 68 million and 33 million, respectively. Similarly, in the 2019 elections, each MP from Uttar Pradesh represented approximately three million voters, while an MP from Lakshadweep represented about 55,000 voters. Assuming the number of parliamentary seats goes up to say 753 seats, States such as Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Kerala might see an increase in seats of about 6%, with Karnataka potentially seeing an 11% rise. Meanwhile, northern States such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan would see their seats rise by 63%. Delimitation, in its historical form, would engender a bias towards a Hindi-speaking northern population while enabling select national parties to rise to power. States which have performed well in reducing their population growth, such as Tamil Nadu and Kerala, may be punished. Delimitation is inevitable, but its deleterious consequences can be minimised. First, the number of seats in Parliament needs to increase significantly (at least around 848 seats to avoid any State losing seats), helping to enhance democratic representation ratios. Delimitation should not be driven only by factors based on population. Geographical determinism, economic productivity, linguistic history, and a sense of fairness should also play a part. In simpler terms, Sikkim's voice must also be heard in Parliament even if Bihar has a greater population. The fiscal impact of delimitation on future transfers to States will also need to be rethought.

> Limited representation in a democratic setup seems to be India's default and flawed preference

Promoting federalism

Beyond this, our electoral system must be reformed. Federalism needs to be promoted (past decades of centralisation that have impacted Centre-State relations), and we need to give States a better voice and a platform to represent their interests.

The Rajya Sabha can play this role; however, it is currently elected by State legislatures, giving disproportionately more representation to larger/more populous States. Constitutional reform can be pursued to give each state the same number of Rajya Sabha MPs. At the same time, direct elections for Rajya Sabha MPs should be promoted while ensuring that a domicile requirement is added and stringently adhered to.

Proportional representation can also be considered, especially for the Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections. In Australia, lower-house elections have voters rank candidates on an alternative preference ballot – if a candidate does not win a majority of votes in the first round, the weakest candidate is eliminated, with their votes redistributed to the next preferred candidate. This goes on until there is a clear majority behind a candidate. In France, a double ballot system is conducted for National Assembly elections; if no candidate wins in the first round, the second round sees only candidates with over 1/8th of total votes in the prior round competing. India's first-past-the-post system may ensure quicker election results. But still, it does ensure that a legislator often represents a constituency without a majority of votes.

Having more States

We need more States as well. The largest State (highest resident population) in the United States, California, has a population of just 39 million, with the average State having a population of about five to six million. Around 22 Indian States/Union Territories have a population higher than that. The States Reorganisation Commission was set up in 1953, creating nearly 14 linguistic States and six Union Territories. There is potential for India to have more States (moving up from 29 to say 50 or even 75 States); for example, a State such as Uttar Pradesh, is simply too big to be governed well as a single unit. A concern about North Indian or large States dominating the polity would be alleviated if we had more and smaller-sized States. A New State Reorganisation Commission may be set up after the next election to evaluate the socio-economic and administrative viability of select to-be States (for example, Bundelkhand, Gorkhaland, Jammu, Karu Nadu, Kongu Nadu, Mithila, Saurashtra, Tulu Nadu and Vidarbha). We have enough linguistic States – States must be split up/redesigned to enhance administrative efficiency and democratic accountability.

India has 8,000-plus urban settlements, but the number of mayors remains in the low hundreds. Every Census town may have a fixed-tenure mayor elected in direct elections. Direct elections could enhance democratic representation while improving efficiency in urban governance. Such mayors must also be empowered, with decision-making ability over 18 critical functions – for example, urban planning, water supply, fire, land use regulations and slum improvement), as outlined by the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act. Select States such as Bihar and Rajasthan) must be pushed to loosen their grip on city-level authorities/functions.

Enhancing local democratic representation will help strengthen India's democracy. Such measures might help alleviate the concerns of citizens in varied parts of India and to enhance its democracy. Any child from the northeast or south of India could aspire to become a Prime Minister. One hopes our policymakers have the wisdom to ensure a just electoral system.

Remission of diabetes, desirable, but not essential

Dr. V. Mohan

is Chairman, Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre and the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation, Chennai

The concept of a reversal of diabetes has become very popular recently. Several commercial organisations have jumped on the bandwagon of a 'reversal of diabetes' and are making tall claims. Therefore, it is important to consider the pros and cons of a reversal of diabetes.

First, the term 'reversal' of diabetes is scientifically incorrect; the appropriate term is 'remission' of diabetes. Reversal implies that the condition has permanently reverted to normal and a cure has been achieved. 'Remission' implies that diabetes has only gone away temporarily. We know for instance that cancer can go into remission, but can come back in a more virulent form.

Remission and type 2 diabetes

Diabetes is not a single condition but consists of several types. When we talk of remission of diabetes, we are referring most often to type 2 diabetes. However, there are other forms of diabetes such as type 1 diabetes where long-term remission is very unlikely to occur.

Can everyone with type 2 achieve remission? Some diabetes reversal programmes claim that they can reverse type 2 diabetes at any stage of the disorder. This is not true.

There are certain individuals with type 2 diabetes who are more likely to achieve remission. This can be identified by the letters ABCDE. A refers to A1c (glycated haemoglobin) which should not be very high; B refers to Body Mass Index (BMI) or body weight. If it is high, you are more likely to achieve remission due to weight loss; C stands for C-Peptide, a measure of insulin secretion. If it is good, you can achieve remission more easily; D stands for Duration of diabetes; the shorter the duration, the greater the chances of remission; and E stands for an Enthusiastic individual who is keen to achieve remission.

> It may not be possible to make India 'diabetes free', but a 'diabetes complications-free India' is within reach

One should remember that even if one achieves remission of diabetes only for a few months or years, it is still worthwhile because it leads to a good 'legacy effect' which provides protection from complications caused by diabetes.

What about those who cannot achieve remission? Should they be disheartened? Definitely not. Indeed, in my experience, the majority of people with type 2 diabetes would find it difficult to achieve long-term remission of their diabetes. Even among those who do so, in the majority of cases, diabetes returns after a few months; the severity of the diabetes is often much worse than when it was before the person went into remission.

Leading a long and healthy life

I would like to reassure people who do not achieve remission that nothing is lost. My experience over the last four to five decades has taught me that all that is needed to have a long and healthy life despite diabetes is to follow another set of ABCD-linked *mantras*: A: A1c or glycated haemoglobin should be below 7% (or if possible even below 6.5%); B: Blood Pressure should be less than 130/80 mm/Hg L or as appropriate for the age; C: Cholesterol (LDL cholesterol) should be less than 50 mg/dl or at least below 70mg/dL; D: Discipline which includes healthy diet, exercise and frequent check-ups with your diabetologist.

We were among the first to show that if ABCD is maintained, people with diabetes can live long and healthy lives. Indeed, 50 or 60-years of survival with diabetes and with no complications whatsoever, is possible.

The ultimate aim of the treatment of diabetes is to have a diabetes complications-free life. Today, diabetes remains sub- optimally controlled which is why it is the leading cause of blindness, amputation, heart attacks, stroke, kidney failure and impotence. Very often we find people in the prime of their life affected by one or more of these devastating complications which affects not only the individual but also his or her family. It can ultimately even impact the economy of the country.

Data on India

According to our recent Indian Council of Medical Research-India Diabetes (ICMR-INDIAB) study, there are currently 101 million people with diabetes and 136 million people with prediabetes in India. In those with prediabetes, preventing the majority of these individuals from developing diabetes for a considerable number of years is possible with just lifestyle modifications. In those who already have diabetes, we should, of course, try to achieve remission of diabetes. But if this is not possible, meeting the ABCD guidelines of the treatment of diabetes will ensure that they can all live a long and healthy life without any diabetes-linked complications.

Even though we may not be able to make India 'diabetes free', my dream is that we can at least have a 'diabetes complications-free India'. On the occasion of World Diabetes Day (November 14), let us rededicate ourselves to achieve this dream.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More noise than light

On the evening of Deepavali, the bursting of crackers went well beyond the restricted time as the sound (read noise) could be heard for long. This also resulted in accumulated smoke entering almost every dwelling/building, affecting children and the elderly. Going by the noise level, one wondered whether 'green crackers' alone were set off. It is not as though there is no way out. Licences must be refused for halls to permit vendors to put up temporary stalls. All shops must display the licences granted to them. The government authorities must be given a list of shops to which licences have been issued. Unless such drastic measures are taken, there is no way to enforce the rules.

V. Lakshmanan,
Tirupur, Tamil Nadu

Thanks to the nonstop bursting of firecrackers almost everywhere, Chennai city was under a blanket of smog for the most part of Deepavali day. There was a huge amount of firecracker waste. The timings stipulated were hardly followed. Apart from the plight of the sick and the elderly, what was pathetic was the way pets reacted to the deafening noise. Several people experienced bouts of severe coughing and itchy eyes.

V. Johan Dhanakumar,
Chennai

The judiciary's red line regarding Deepavali celebrations was hardly followed. It is time steps are taken to stop the manufacture of crackers. The mess on the roads showed our scant regard for our surroundings.

Purabi Pathak Barua,
Guwahati

Deepavali means the festival of lights. But in the south, it was practically a festival of sounds. Lamps were hardly seen in houses. Instead, there was pollution and deafening sounds which frightened even the animal kingdom. I suggest we switch to the lighting of *diyas* and shun crackers in the interest of the environment. The sick and the elderly face a difficult time because of the incessant noise.

V.K. Gopalan,
Tiruchi

This year too, there was hardly any change, with rules being flouted. It was upsetting to have crackers, especially the 'bombs', being set off even at 10 p.m. and after, disturbing the sleep of senior citizens. A spark from a firecracker is said to have caused a fire in a temple in the heart of Chennai. Having a time limit is no solution unless there is strict vigilance and severe punishment.

N. Mahadevan,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Realism, not machismo, to counter terror

Tara Kartha,

formerly with the National Security Council Secretariat, is a Distinguished Fellow at the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies. She posts on X as @kartha_tara

There are animated discussions on social media on the Israel-Hamas conflict, with a large number of people sympathising with Israel, which suffered an unprecedented attack by Hamas on October 7. This is perhaps because India went through the trauma of the Mumbai attacks in 2008 (known as 26/11), among others. Opinion, however, became more strident when *The New York Times* columnist, Thomas Friedman, published an article last month praising former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's "remarkable act of restraint" in not attacking Pakistan immediately after the Mumbai attacks. Some social media warriors were outraged, condemning India's past inaction as an act of cowardice. This is perhaps because India prides itself on its air strikes on Balakot in Pakistan in 2019 to avenge the Pulwama terror attack.

A well-thought-out strategy

But counter-terrorism is a delicate act; it is to be carried out with due thought and realism, not raging machismo, as India showed. First, terrorists strike in the hope of eliciting a response that will highlight their cause. Hamas attacked Israel when the Saudis and Israelis were on a path to peace, which would have led to the Palestinian cause taking a back seat. With Israel's violent response, the Palestinian issue has taken centre stage now. Let's assume that after 26/11, India had bombed major cities and cantonments in Pakistan. That would have led to a nuclear stand-off, with the international focus shifting to how to 'solve' the India-Pakistan issue, which centres around Kashmir, rather than terrorism itself.

Here is what happened by doing nothing. The gravity of the 26/11 attacks was equated to that of the 9/11 attacks in the U.S. Soon after the attacks, U.S. President George W. Bush sent a strong statement of support to India, world leaders condemned the attacks, and India was praised for being a "responsible nuclear power". The path-breaking India-U.S. Civil Nuclear agreement was operationalised just a month before the attacks in Mumbai. In addition, there was another issue. The global financial crisis had just hit, with the collapse of the Lehman Brothers. In India too, the stock market crashed by 41% between June and December. A war would have been disastrous.

Second, it is vital to frame an issue in terms of the prevailing international circumstances and how that can best be used to achieve one's own objectives. Delhi decided to ally itself with the 'war on terror', which was being fought across continents. The result of a war would have been not just finger-wagging from the international community, but also the loss of international money. Investors hate instability.

Pakistan's fortunes began to tumble soon after 26/11, furthered by an internal mess of its own making. The country, under General Pervez Musharraf, milked 9/11 for all it was worth: the U.S. military's aid rose exponentially during this period in order to enable Pakistan to fight Taliban and al Qaeda militants. Joe Biden, who was Senator, repeatedly called for reducing this aid in 2008. Real GDP growth crashed after 2008-09 and later recovered briefly, but it never recovered to previous growth rates. Foreign Direct Investment, which had risen in the 9/11 period, dropped by 42% by 2010, as Pakistan became identified with the 'war on terror'. The focus on Pakistan increased further when the United Nations designated the Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LeT) as a terrorist organisation in 2010. In 2009, the U.S. Senate passed the revised version of the Kerry-Lugar Bill, which tripled U.S. non-military assistance to Pakistan from $400 million to $1.5 billion annually for the next five years, with clauses that Pakistan considered offensive. For instance, the bill said that Pakistan must show that it is "ceasing support" for terrorists and that it must prevent groups such as LeT from carrying out attacks on "neighbouring countries." Pakistan was furious. This narrative began to build as notable scholars such as Stephen Cohen began to call it "America's most dangerous ally". India was de-linked from Pakistan as it drew closer to the U.S., while Pakistan's future was evaluated entirely by its terrorist antics.

It can be argued that the collapse of present-day Pakistan is in part due to India's decision not to attack and instead craft an international response. Alongside, India created a path for a $3 trillion economy, while Pakistan's economic fortunes continue to tumble. None of this might have happened if India had gone to war.

Showing strength

However, this does not reduce the vital importance of the air strikes on Balakot. Those were carried out when India's defence capability had vastly improved, its economy was strong, and it enjoyed a solid relationship with the U.S. The strikes were carefully calibrated to send a signal to Pakistan that its terrorism was not cost-free. Importantly, it freed Indians from a defensive mindset. Strong leadership matters. But strength can come from a deliberated move rather than the kind of chest-beating that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has adopted.

Finally, whether then or now, there is no question of having 'boots on the ground' given that India and Pakistan are nuclear powers. Pakistan can be punished, but without being invaded. Those calling for India to be as "decisive" as Israel miss the point. Mr. Netanyahu has just given Hamas the priceless gift of publicity; now, support for the Palestinian cause has swelled everywhere. The trick is to outwit a country, even as the threat of a slashing sword is seen to be ever-present.

As India showed after the 26/11 attacks, counter-terrorism can be carried out with due thought and realism, not raging machismo

Yadavs, Yahudis, and tales of yore

The BJP is reaching out to Yadavs using the Gaza war and Dalits through folklore

STATE OF PLAY

Anuj Kumar
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On October 22, the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict found political resonance in Uttar Pradesh when Sudarshan News, a pro-Hindutva channel known for its shrill and provocative programmes that have come under judicial scrutiny in the past, aired two episodes that drew parallels between Yadavs and Yahudis (Jewish people) and alluded to similarities between the lives of Moses and Lord Krishna.

Days later, while addressing an election rally in the Tijara constituency of Rajasthan where the Congress has fielded a Muslim candidate, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath equated the Israel-Hamas war with the fight between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Congress.

In the programme titled *'Kya Yadav Hi Yahudi Hain* (Are Yadavs Yahudis?)', the prime-time voice of Sudarshan News, Suresh Chavhanke, said most Yadavs affirmed the channel's "research", except the political ones because they needed Muslim votes. It was obvious that he was pointing to the leadership of the Samajwadi Party (SP), the principal opposition party, which managed to galvanise Yadavs and Muslims in the post-Mandal-era and emerged as a major player in Uttar Pradesh despite the Hindutva wave after the Ram Janmabhoomi movement.

The channel's clickbait hashtag *'YahudiYadavHai'* is meant for the Yadavs, a backward agrarian group whose representation in police and other armed forces went up after reservation for Other

Backward Classes (OBCs) came into effect in the 1990s. It is intended to provide mythical links that give a sense of upliftment to the community in the social hierarchy and bring it under the Hindutva umbrella. It is interesting to note that despite the folk theory that lies at the core of the Yadav community, which says that all pastoral castes descend from the Yadu dynasty to which Lord Krishna belongs, the community hasn't shown any concerted interest in pushing the cause of the Krishna Janmabhoomi movement. A post-poll study conducted by the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies indicated that 83% of Yadavs voted for the SP in the 2022 Assembly polls.

Mr. Adityanath, who directed officials to take strict action against those spreading hatred over the Israel-Palestine conflict, showed little restraint while addressing the election rally in Rajasthan. Using some low-hanging metaphors, he said that a Talibani mindset could only be cured through Bajrangbali's (Lord Hanuman's) mace. Hailing Israel and accusing the Congress of Muslim appeasement, he added, "We are seeing how Israel is crushing the Talibani mindset in Gaza." At a time when the SP and the Congress are drumming up support for a caste census, the BJP seems to be repurposing the Israel-Hamas war and diluting the opposition's cry for social justice. In its brand of social harmony, reason and intellect are often superseded by emotion.

Last month, while addressing Dalit conferences in constituencies where Scheduled Castes (SCs) form a sizeable number, Mr. Adityanath emphasised the Dalit origins of the poet Valmiki and the sage Ved Vyasa, who composed the Sanskrit texts of the Ramayana and Mahabharata, respectively, while talking about social cohesion in Hindu society. This came after the SP's non-Yadav face, Swami Prasad Maurya, repeatedly attacked Santana Dharma and the Ramcharitmanas by describing certain sections in the text as being 'anti-Dalit' and 'anti-women'. Moreover, the Nishad Party, a BJP ally which represents the politically influential boatmen community that considers Ved Vyasa as their ancestor, is invoking the community's role in the Ramayana and Mahabharata to demand a place of pride in the Hindu pantheon as well as reservation under the SC category.

This is a test case for the ruling party as the contentious issues of assimilation of all Hindus under Hindutva and the reassertion of caste identity overlap. The U.P. government has sanctioned a huge statue of Lord Rama embracing Nishadraj (the head of the riverine clan who helped Lord Rama cross the river during his exile) near Prayagraj, but the community, while appreciating the gesture, seems more keen on being accorded SC status. While the BJP is trying to woo Dalit votes, in March this year, citing data of the National Crime Records Bureau, the Centre told Parliament that of the 1,89,945 cases of crime registered against Dalits in India 2018 to 2021, the highest (49,613) were in U.P.

Madhya Pradesh in the bottom half of all State-level rankings

Poll-bound Madhya Pradesh lags behind most States in all economic and social indicators

DATA POINT

Rebecca Rose Varghese & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

The Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections are scheduled to take place on November 17. A comparison of the economic, social, and environmental indicators of the poll-bound State with the indicators of other States shows that Madhya Pradesh features at the bottom half. Also, its relative ranking among the States remained stagnant in most of the indicators between 2015-16 and 2019-21.

Table 1 lists Madhya Pradesh's rank in social indicators and its actual score in an indicator in 2019-21, 2015-16, and 2005-06. It also shows the change in rank in 2019-21 from 2015-16. The performance of the top three States in the indicator are also given for comparison. For instance, Madhya Pradesh had 35.7% stunted children (low height-for-age) in 2019-21, and ranked 25 out of 30 States. The three best-performing States that year were Kerala (23.4%), Punjab (24.5%), and Tamil Nadu (25%). In this indicator, Madhya Pradesh's ranking improved by just one spot in 2019-21 from 2015-16, the year when the State was placed 26th out of the 30 States.

Across most social indicators, there has been no notable improvement in the last few years. For instance, the share of girls/women who attended school was 64% in 2015-16 and improved to only 67.5% in 2019-21. Only those aged six and above were considered. The share of underweight children (low weight-for-age) improved marginally from 42.8% to 33%, while the infant mortality rate recorded a small improvement from 51.2 to 41.3. The State's ranking in the parameter of underweight children improved only by two spots (from 28 to 26), and in the parameter of infant mortality rate only by one spot (28 to 27), among the 30 States considered.

In fact, a comparison with data from 2005-06 shows that the rankings have hardly improved since. In that period, Madhya Pradesh ranked at the bottom of the table in many social indicators. It no longer holds that dubious distinction. For instance, in 2005-06, the State ranked at the bottom of the list in the share of wasted children (weight-for-height) and underweight children. In 2005-06, only 28 States were considered for comparison; the data of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh were ignored.

Given the inferior social rankings, Madhya Pradesh's rank in the Human Development Index (HDI) remained poor in 1990 and 2021 as well. In 1990, its HDI ranking was 26 of 30 States; this slid to 27 in 2021. **(Table 2)**.

Madhya Pradesh's economic performance is among the worst in the country. In fact, its ranking worsened between 1993-94 and 2021-22. In 1993-94, the State ranked 19 of 27 States in Per Capita Net State Domestic Product (current prices), as seen in **Table 3.** This declined by two spots in 2021-22. Notably, over half the population in the State belongs to the lowest two wealth quintiles **(Table 4)**.

Madhya Pradesh's manufacturing sector employed around 7% of the State's workforce and the sector's share in total Gross Value Added was about 9%. The State ranks at the bottom half of the table in both measures **(Table 5)**.

In educational indicators, in 2020, Madhya Pradesh ranked over 20 of the 30 States on indicators such as enrolment in elementary, higher secondary, and college-level education. The Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education was only 21.5%. **(Table 6).**

While the State lags behind the country in terms of economic performance, it is better in environment-related indicators **(Table 7)**. The State generated a relatively lower amount of hazardous and plastic waste and featured at the top half of the State lists.

Madhya Pradesh's report card

The data for the charts were sourced from the National Family Health Surveys, Global Data Lab and NITI Aayog

Table 1

Indicator	2019-21 Value	2019-21 Madhya Pradesh's rank	2019-21 Top major States	2019-21 Change from 2015-16	2015-16 Value	2015-16 Madhya Pradesh's rank	2005-06 Value	2005-06 Madhya Pradesh's rank
Female population aged 6 years and above who ever attended school (%)	67.5	24 of 30	Kerala - 95.5; Himachal - 81; T.N. - 80.4	0	64	24 of 30	52	24 of 28
Women aged 20-24 years married before age 18 years of age (%)	23.1	22 of 30	Himachal: 5.4; Kerala: 6.3; Punjab: 8.7	2	32.4	24 of 30	53	22 of 28
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	41.3	27 of 30	Kerala: 4.4; Tamil Nadu: 18.6; West Bengal: 22	1	51.2	28 of 30	69	26 of 28
Stunted children (low height-for-age) (%)	35.7	25 of 30	Kerala: 23.4; Punjab: 24.5; Tamil Nadu: 25	1	42	26 of 30	50	23 of 28
Wasted children (low weight-for-height) (%)	19	20 of 30	Punjab: 10.6; Haryana: 11.5; Uttarakhand: 13.2	7	25.8	27 of 30	35	28 of 28
Underweight children (low weight-for-age) (%)	33	26 of 30	Punjab: 16.9; Kerala: 19.7; Uttarakhand: 21	2	42.8	28 of 30	60	28 of 28
Households with any member covered under a health insurance/financing scheme (%)	38.1	15 of 30	Rajasthan: 87.8; Chhattisgarh:71.4 Andhra: 70.2	4	17.7	19 of 30	4.8	16 of 28
Population which use an improved sanitation facility (%)	65.1	26 of 30	Kerala: 98.7; Punjab: 86.6; Haryana: 85	1	34.8	27 of 30	-	-

Table 2: HDI

2021 Value	2021 M.P.'s rank	2021 Top major States	1990 Value	1990 M.P.'s rank
0.596	27 of 30	Kerala, Himachal, Punjab	0.403	26 of 30

Table 3: Per capita NSDP

2021-22 Value	2021-22 M.P.'s rank	2021-22 Top major States	1993-94 Value	1993-94 M.P.'s rank
1,21,594	21 of 27	Karnataka, Haryana, Gujarat	6,584	19 of 27

Table 4: % population in the lowest two wealth quintiles (2020)

Value	M.P.'s rank	Top major States
54.7	15 of 30	Kerala, Punjab

Table 5

Indicator (2020)	Value	M.P.'s rank	Top major States
Manufacturing GVA* as a % of total	8.85	22 of 30	Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Himachal
Manufacturing employment as a % of total	6.84	22 of 30	Gujarat, Punjab, Tamil Nadu

Table 6

Indicator (2020)	Value	M.P.'s rank	Top major States
ANER* in elementary education (Class 1-8)	81.2	24 of 30	Karnataka, Himachal, Uttarakhand
Average annual drop-out rate at secondary level (Class 9-10)	24.9	26 of 30	Himachal, Kerala, Odisha
GER* in higher secondary (Class 11-12)	43.7	21 of 30	Himachal, Kerala, T.N.
GER* in higher education (18-23 years)	21.5	22 of 30	T.N., Himachal, Uttarakhand

Table 7

Indicator (2020)	Value	M.P.'s rank	Top major States
Hazardous waste generated (per 1,000 population in metric tonnes in 2018)	3.03	13 of 28	Bihar, U.P.
Plastic waste generated (Average plastic generated per 1,000 population in tonnes, 2018-19)	0.89	9 of 30	Chhattisgarh, Himachal

GVA: Gross Value Added; ANER*: Adjusted Net Enrolment Ratio; GER*: Gross Enrolment Ratio*

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FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 14, 1973

Israelis defy U.N. forces' efforts to replace checkpost

Cairo, Nov. 13: The Commander of the U.N. peace-keeping forces in West Asia flew to Tel Aviv to-day to meet Israeli officials on a growing crisis over highway checkpoints that threaten to break down the West Asia ceasefire. Maj. Gen. Ensio Siilvasvuo made the trip after an urgent early morning visit to the scene of a melee yesterday afternoon in which Israeli and Finnish troops engaged in a fist fight triggered by the Finns' attempt to replace an Israeli checkpoint on the Cairo-Suez highway with one of their own. A U.N. spokesman indicated that the Israelis had refused to give up their own checkpoint on the highway, despite the U.N. forces' attempt to replace them, as called for by the ceasefire agreement signed on Sunday by Egypt and Israel. Sources in both Egypt and Israel said the controversy over the road was blocking full implementation of the six-point ceasefire agreement and they predicted no progress until the controversy was settled. Earlier, in an effort to find a solution, Maj. Gen. Siilvasvuo, had met the Israeli Defence Minister, Gen. Moshe Dayan, near the Egyptian ceasefire lines. An Israeli officer said there was some pushing and shoving yesterday between the United Nations troops and Israeli soldiers who dismantled a U.N. checkpoint near Suez Town. An Israeli military communique said the checkpoint put up on the Cairo-Suez road, was taken down because it cut off Israeli forces from those west of Suez Town, which Israel claims its troops encircle. The incident, which came just after dusk last night, followed a refusal by the U.N. peacekeeping troops to reopen the road, the communique said.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 14, 1923

The colour bar

Pretoria, Nov. 13: An important decision declaring the colour bar repugnant to the general law of the land was delivered at the Supreme Court arising from the application of the Attorney-General for a ruling in the case of a mine manager charged with contravening the mining regulations by permitting a native to take charge of a locomotive. Justice Krause presiding laid down that there was no justification for differentiation and where express statutory provision was absent, it was dangerous to hold that the Governor General had the power to make such regulations.

From Page One

Retail inflation eases to 4.87% in October

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is unlikely to lower interest rates anytime soon especially as the food price situation remains sticky and reversed its sequential direction from a 2.2% month-on-month drop in September. The RBI has recently vowed to remain focused on price rise till it sustains around its 4% target, rather than be satisfied with inflation prints between the 4% mark and the upper tolerance threshold of 6%. While there was some slight relief in the inflation rates for cereals (from 11% in September to 10.65% in October), meat and fish (from 4.1% to 3.3%), milk (down 6.44%) and spices, which remained elevated at 22.8% in October, these were offset by gains on other fronts. The pace of price rise in key protein sources like pulses and eggs accelerated sharply to 18.8% and 9.3%, respectively, inflation in fruits and sugar picked up pace to hit 9.34% and 5.5%.

Ex-PM Cameron in, Suella Braverman out

Members of the British government are normally also members of one of the U.K. Houses of Parliament. Although he had been away from active politics for seven years, his experience as Prime Minister and Conservative Party leader would help him in assisting Mr. Sunak meet "vital" global challenges, Mr. Cameron said.

"Though I may have disagreed with some individual decisions, it is clear to me that Rishi Sunak is a strong and capable Prime Minister, who is showing exemplary leadership at a difficult time. I want to help him to deliver the security and prosperity," Mr. Cameron wrote in a lengthy statement posted on X (formerly Twitter). He had recently criticised Mr. Sunak's decision to cancel the remainder of the High Speed Rail 2 project in the North of England.

Mr. Cameron's tenure as Prime Minister between 2010 and 2016 was most noted for the deeply divisive Brexit referendum which resulted in the U.K. leaving the E.U. In a more recent controversy, BBC Panorama had reported in 2021 that Mr. Cameron had received approximately $10 million in return for promoting discredited finance company Greensill Capital. Mr. Cameron also continues to be criticised for his close ties with the Chinese government, having presided over a different era (a "golden era" as per his then Chancellor George Osborne) of U.K.-China ties when he was the Prime Minister.

More to say: Braverman

After news of her sacking spread, Ms. Braverman said it was the highest privilege of her life to have served as Home Secretary.

"I will have more to say in due course," she said, according to news agency PA Media.

The former minister's track record of controversial comments include remarks made earlier this month that many homeless people were living in tents as a "lifestyle choice". In October 2022, Ms. Braverman, the daughter of migrants of Indian descent from Africa, had said it was her "dream" and "obsession" to see asylum seekers being taken in a flight from the U.K. to Rwanda. Her comments on Indian citizens comprising the largest group of overstayers in the U.K. ruffled feathers in the Indian government, complicating trade talks between the two countries.

The criticism of Ms. Braverman is not uniform across her party, however, and she continues to enjoy support from the right flank of the Conservative Party – including from members of the backbench Common Sense Group and the New Conservatives. There is also speculation that the former Home Secretary may have her eye on the top job at No. 10 Downing Street. Significantly, the U.K. Supreme Court will rule on the legality of the Rwanda policy on Wednesday.

Even with Ms. Braverman out, the Home Office will continue to seek to reduce illegal migration in line with the Sunak government policy.

"The goal is clear. My job is to keep people in this country safe," Mr. Cleverly said in his new post. He said he was "absolutely committed" to another one of the Conservative government's pet projects – stopping boats carrying migrants across the English Channel from arriving in the U.K. Other changes made by Mr. Sunak involved appointing former Financial Secretary Victoria Atkins as Health Secretary, replacing Steve Barclay who in turn replaced Thérèse Coffey as Environment Secretary. "New titles, same old Tories," London's (Labour) Mayor Sadiq Khan wrote as he called for a general election to be held now. The U.K. is heading towards the polls with Mr. Sunak required to call elections before January 2025.

Nine dead in a fire in Hyderabad building

"We suspect that the watchman might have set fire to the garbage swept up in the morning, which might have had crackers. However, this is still being investigated," the official said.

K. Madhusudana Rao, District Fire Officer, Secunderabad, said the fire had initially started at the stilt of the building, which was filled with chemicals in plastic drums and other inflammable materials. The fire then quickly spread to all the upper floors. Ramesh Jaiswal, who has been identified as the owner of the stored chemicals, has been booked under Section 304 (II) (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of the IPC. "He is absconding," the police said.

40 workers trapped in tunnel in Uttarkashi safe; rescue efforts on

Oxygen and food being supplied to the workers; multi-agency rescue operation involving NDRF, SDRF, ITBP and police under way; the trapped men have also received a walkie-talkie and communicating with rescue personnel, say officials

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

Race against time: Members of the Uttarakhand State Disaster Response Force during an operation to rescue 40 workers trapped inside a collapsed road tunnel in Uttarkashi district. AP

Rescue teams are racing against time to save the 40 labourers trapped after a portion of an under-construction tunnel collapsed in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand early on Sunday.

The tunnel, being built by National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL) in Silkyara, is part of the Char Dham all-weather road project, which aims to reduce the distance between Uttarkashi and Yamunotri town by 26 km.

Officials of the National and State Disaster Response Forces have established contact with the trapped labourers. The labourers, who sought food, told the officials they were safe and had adequate water inside for a few days. Oxygen is being pumped into the collapsed area through a pipe.

The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) said the tunnel collapsed at 5.30 a.m. on Sunday. The rescue teams were immediately rushed to the spot. They pushed a pipe through the debris through which they sent a walkie-talkie to the trapped workers.

Superintendent of Police Arpan Yaduvanshi said communication was established with the trapped workers within hours of the accident. "Initially, the workers panicked, but we managed to pacify them by explaining our rescue operations. They said there is no shortage of oxygen as no one is complaining about breathing issues. We are sending raw food materials," he added.

"There are 75 police personnel involved in the rescue operations along with 25 fire services personnel, one platoon of PAC (Provincial Armed Constabulary), 25 people from the SDRF, 35 from the NDRF, and 25 from the Indo-Tibetan Border Police. Our teams are running against time in the chilly weather to ensure that every worker trapped inside the tunnel is evacuated safely," Mr. Yaduvanshi said.

NHIDCL officials said that by their duty roster, of the 40 workers, 15 are from Jharkhand, eight from Uttar Pradesh, five from Odisha, four from Bihar, three from West Bengal and two each from Uttarakhand and Assam. One is from Himachal Pradesh

Speaking about the rescue operations, the technical team of the NHIDCL said debris was being removed at a fast pace.

"We are removing the loose earth continuously along with shotcrete [concrete or mortar sprayed with either a dry or wet mix process] to push through a 900-mm diameter steel pipe to evacuate the workforce through it. An expert team from the Irrigation Department is reaching the project site for assistance," it said.

Till Monday night, 21 metres of collapsed area was cleared, but falling debris posed a hindrance in the work.

The State government said the 4,531-metre-long tunnel was being constructed for the benefit of the Char Dham pilgrims as it would save their travelling time by around one hour, avoiding steep, mountainous and narrow roads prone to accidents and landslips.

The existing road, if widened, would have completely destroyed the rich flora and fauna of the Radi top mountains with thick cover of rhododendrons.

Ranjeet Kumar Sinha, State Disaster Management Secretary, said the accident happened as the area had soft rock that collapsed under pressure.

"We will see what can be done about the rock nature, but currently our primary task is to rescue people safely, which is expected by Wednesday morning," Mr. Sinha said.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami visited the site on Monday to take the stock of the situation. The CM directed the officials to speed up the rescue work.

Mahua Moitra appointed Trinamool district chief

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

The Trinamool Congress on Monday appointed Mahua Moitra president of the party's Krishnanagar unit. Ms. Moitra has been given the task of strengthening the party at a time when she is facing recommendations from the Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha for expulsion from the House in a cash-for-query row.

She has replaced Kallol Khan as the district president of Krishnanagar in Nadia district. The MP took to social media and thanked party chairperson Mamata Banerjee. "Thank you @MamataOfficial and @AITCofficial for appointing me District President of Krishnanagar (Nadia North). Will always work with the party for the people of Krishnanagar," she said on X.

Ms. Moitra won the Krishnanagar Lok Sabha seat in 2019 with a margin of over 60,000 votes and the new appointment was an indication that the party may field her again from the same seat in the Lok Sabha election.

The Trinamool leadership on November 9 put its weight behind Ms. Moitra by raising questions on the decision of the committee, alleging that it was a move to stifle the MP's voice in the House.

Centre extends UAPA ban on eight Meitei extremist organisations

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

> The Union government is of the opinion that the activities of the organisations are detrimental to India's sovereignty and integrity
> MHA NOTIFICATION

The Union Home Ministry on Monday extended the ban under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) against eight "Meitei extremist organisations" for advocating secession of Manipur from India through armed struggle. It declared the eight outfits "unlawful associations" for inciting indigenous people of Manipur for such secession, a notification said.

The organisations include the Peoples' Liberation Army, known as PLA, and its political wing, the Revolutionary Peoples' Front (RPF); the United National Liberation Front (UNLF) and its armed wing, the Manipur Peoples' Army (MPA); the Peoples' Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK) and its armed wing, the 'Red Army'; the Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP) and its armed wing, also called the 'Red Army'; the Kanglei Yaol Kanba Lup (KYKL); the Coordination Committee (CorCom); and the Alliance for Socialist Unity Kangleipak (ASUK).

It added that the Central government is of the opinion that the outfits have been engaging in activities prejudicial to the sovereignty and integrity of India; employing and engaging in armed means to achieve their objectives; attacking and killing the security forces, police and civilians in Manipur; indulging in acts of intimidation, extortion and looting of civilian population for collection of funds; making contact with sources abroad for influencing public opinion and for securing their assistance by way of arms and training for the purpose of achieving their secessionist objective and maintaining camps in neighbouring countries for the purpose of sanctuaries, training and clandestine procurement of arms and ammunition.

It said that the government is of the opinion that the activities of the organisations are detrimental to the sovereignty and integrity of India and that they are unlawful associations.

It said if there is no immediate curb and control on the activities, they will take the opportunity to "mobilise their cadres for escalating their secessionist, subversive, terrorist and violent activities; propagate anti-national activities in collusion with forces inimical to sovereignty and integrity of India; indulge in killings of civilians and targeting of the police and security force personnel; procure and induct illegal arms and ammunitions from across the international border; and extort and collect huge funds from public."

1,400 Myanmar citizens take refuge in Mizoram, 1 dead

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

Some 1,400 Myanmar nationals took refuge in Champhai district of Mizoram early on Monday morning following an intense gunfight between the Myanmar Army and pro-democracy militias in Chin State across India's border.

Among the refugees were 16 people injured in the shelling by the Myanmar Army, while one Myanmar national was killed on the Indian side of the border in the district's Zokhawthar area after being hit by shrapnel, officials said. The person was hit by a "metallic object" after a bomb exploded across the Tiau river that marks almost half the 510-km border between the two countries, officials said.

Champhai Deputy Commissioner James Lalrinchhana said the fighting across the border started on Sunday evening and ended on Monday morning. He confirmed reports of bombing close to the International Border and said officials have been asked to assess the situation in Zokhawthar, about 42 km from Champhai, the district's headquarters.

Assam Rifles officials said the situation along the border has been tense with many people from villages and towns in the bordering areas of Myanmar having crossed over. A local police officer said a Myanmar national, hit by shrapnel, died soon after crossing the border.

Trinamool leader shot dead in South 24 Parganas

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Violence erupted at Joynagar in West Bengal's South 24 Parganas after a local Trinamool Congress leader was murdered in the early hours of Monday morning. Saifuddin Laskar was shot dead when he was going to offer prayers at a local mosque. Several houses of Communist Party of India (Marxist) supporters were set on fire after the murder.

Miscreants on two motorcycles shot the Bamangachi *anchal* (zonal) president of the Trinamool from a close range. Locals present at the scene of the crime caught the two miscreants. Family members of the deceased said that supporters of the CPI(M) were behind the murder.

Votes on UN draft resolutions criticising Israel were 'routine', regular stance maintained, says govt.

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

In solidarity: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres observing a minute of silence in memory of those killed in Gaza on Monday. AFP

India's position on the United Nations votes that dealt with draft resolutions criticising Israel last week were 'routine' and reflect its position on the same resolutions that are passed regularly each year, officials said, differentiating these from the UN General Assembly ceasefire resolution in October, when India had abstained.

On Thursday, the Fourth Committee of the UNGA had voted to clear six resolutions that criticise Israel and support aid for Palestinians in the Occupied Territories and refugees elsewhere. India voted in favour of five of the six resolutions, abstaining in one resolution that deal with investigating Israeli practices and operations for human rights violations.

Of most significance was the vote criticising "Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan" that 'condemns' Israeli demolitions of Palestinian villages and calls the occupation of those villages by Israeli settlers 'illegal', which India voted in favour of. The vote by India came despite statements by the envoys of Israel and the U.S., who called upon members to vote against the resolutions which will be taken up at the UNGA plenary session, most likely in December.

The U.S. envoy called the resolutions "one-sided". "This year, we call on you to vote against the resolutions because of what is not mentioned in the resolutions despite the Hamas terror attack against Israel on October 7. There is no mention of war crimes by Hamas. So vote against the resolutions," the Israeli envoy said.

India's vote in favour of most of the resolutions on November 9 had led to speculation and commentary that the government had had another 'rethink' on its UN voting policy. On October 26, India had abstained from the resolution at the Special Emergency Session, calling for an immediate ceasefire to Israeli operations, which was a shift in position seen as favouring Israel. At the time, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) had said that it had changed its vote from the past, to an 'abstention', to demonstrate its "zero tolerance" policy on terrorism, and that it could not vote in favour of resolutions that didn't directly reference the attack.

When asked about why India had voted for the five draft resolutions last week that were critical of Israel, and which did not refer to the issue of Hamas attacks or the return of hostages, an official explained that the draft resolutions are "annual, regular resolutions" that were routine, adding that the October 27 ceasefire resolution was a special vote that had taken place against the backdrop of the October 7 and Gaza incidents. However, former diplomats said that India has shifted its stand to a more 'transactional' one, balancing ties with Israel and the traditional policy on Palestine.

ASSEMBLY POLLS 2023

Cong. nurtures hatred towards OBCs, says Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday accused the Congress of nurturing hatred towards the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and failing to provide reservation to OBCs despite being in power.

Addressing poll rallies in Chhattisgarh, Mr. Modi said that by abusing him, Congress leaders had been abusing the entire OBC community.

Without naming anyone, he took a jibe at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, saying some "*mahagyani* leaders are nowadays publicising my caste in their gathering; they go on saying that Modi is an OBC".

"What the Congress did for five years to the Sahu community of the State is not hidden from anyone," he said.

The Sahu community is one of the key OBC communities in the State. The Congress pegs the OBC population at just over 43% and has promised a caste survey if voted to power.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing a poll rally in Mahasamund on Monday. ANI

BJP leaders to address rallies in Rajasthan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address three public meetings in poll-bound Rajasthan this week, an official statement said on Monday.

Mr. Modi will address a meeting in Barmer district on November 15. He will also address public meetings in Bharatpur and Nagaur on November 18, it said.

On November 16, Union Home Minister Amit Shah will address a public meeting in Tonks Deoli. He will also address meetings in the Kumbhalgarh and Bhim constituencies.

On November 18, Mr. Shah will address public meetings in Hindoli of Bundi and the Masuda and Nasirabad constituencies in Ajmer.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will reach Jaipur on Tuesday to address party workers in Kishanpole and Adarsh Nagar constituencies. PTI

> Can those who are in politics for their sons and daughters do good for the country? This can be done only by Modi's BJP and his group of patriots
>
> **AMIT SHAH**
> Union Home Minister

Diplomats to observe BJP's poll campaign

The BJP on Monday said that a three-member delegation of diplomats will be visiting Indore on November 14-15 to get a "first hand insight" into the party's campaign, as part of its "Know BJP" outreach.

The programme, launched by party chief J. P. Nadda has organised many meetings between him and members of diplomatic corp in New Delhi.

> They [the BJP] released the manifesto during the last days of the Assembly election and copied everything from the Congress manifesto
>
> **KAMAL NATH**
> Congress leader

Trading barbs: Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot addressing a rally in Neemkathana, ahead of the State Assembly elections. ANI

Udaipur tailor's killers were BJP workers, alleges Ashok Gehlot

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

Accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of whipping up communal passions ahead of the Assembly election, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said Udaipur tailor Kanhaiya Lal was killed by BJP workers who had been released from police detention under party pressure a few days before the murder in June last year.

"The culprits have links with the BJP. The police had arrested them in some other case, but BJP leaders visited the police station to get them released," Mr. Gehlot said at a meeting of Congress workers in Jodhpur on Sunday. He said the accused were caught by the police within three hours of Mr. Lal's murder, but the NIA took over the case the same night.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said at an election rally in Udaipur last week that the Congress was "sympathetic to terrorists", and accused the State government of pursuing a policy of appeasement that helped terrorists. Mr. Modi was referring to Mr. Lal's murder by two assailants.

Mr. Gehlot said the progress in the case was not known since the NIA took it over from the State police.

"Had the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Rajasthan police handled the case, the probe would have reached a logical conclusion by now," he said.

The Chief Minister said the pace of investigation had been "purposefully kept slow", as the BJP intended to turn the case into an election issue to polarise the voters on communal lines. The two cleaver-wielding men, who had allegedly murdered Mr. Lal in broad daylight at his shop, had accused him of supporting those who had made some controversial remarks.

Mr. Gehlot pointed out that the BJP leaders, including the Leader of the Opposition, had left for a conference in Hyderabad immediately after the Udaipur incident, while the Congress acted with all seriousness. "I cancelled all my programmes in Jaipur and left for Udaipur the moment I came to know of the incident," he said.

Mr. Gehlot said the BJP's Hindutva agenda would not work in Rajasthan, as the Assembly polls were being fought with development at the centre stage. "They exploited Lord Hanuman in the Karnataka election but had to bite the dust. They will not succeed here with this strategy, as Rajasthan has emerged as a model State following the State government's welfare measures."

BJP refutes allegations

Denying the allegations, the BJP's election in-charge for western Rajasthan, Rajendra Gehlot, asked if the accused had been caught by the police, why were they let off.

"It is the State government's weakness if they were let off by the police. The State government has information and complaints had been given to the police but in spite of that, such a heinous crime was allowed to take place," the BJP leader said.

(With PTI inputs)

FOR FULL COVERAGE OF ASSEMBLY POLLS
Please scan the QR code or visit
https://newsth.live/elections

In Madhya Pradesh, no groundswell of support for Cong.'s caste survey pitch

A party leader says the survey is a bigger issue at the national level and that local issues are dominating the political space in the State; BJP has kept relatively quiet on the subject and is expected to observe its impact before devising a strategy to counter the narrative of the Congress

GROUND REPORT

Mehul Malpani
SHIVPURI/NARMADAPURAM

An *alaav* (bonfire) is lit around 9 p.m. outside a *dhaba* in Shahpur of Betul district with some men gathered around it. While the *alaav* announces the arrival of winter, the conversations around it vary. However, with the Madhya Pradesh Assembly election approaching fast, the polls dominate the conversations in these gatherings.

Manohar Wagadre, an electronics shop owner in Shahpur town, who hails from the Other Backward Class (OBC) community, expresses his disapproval for an exercise to find out the caste-based population in his State or the country. He says, "It will again promote enmity between people and take us back to the days of caste-based politics. It can get really ugly."

Dubbing it as the party's "primary agenda" for the November 17 Assembly polls, the top leadership of the Congress has promised a caste-based population survey if voted to power in Madhya Pradesh. In the past one month, almost all of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's speeches in Madhya Pradesh have been dominated by the poll plank, aimed at winning over the OBCs and the tribal people who make up nearly 50% and 21% of the State's population, respectively.

While he calls the exercise an "X-Ray" to detect the problems of the tribal people, Dalits and Backward Classes, Mr. Gandhi has devised a simple example to explain the need of a caste census to the OBC and tribal voters of the State. At a rally on November 9, Mr. Gandhi said, "The budget of Madhya Pradesh is approximately ₹3.5 lakh crore and Shivraj Singh Chouhan and his 53 officers decide how the budget will be spent. Out of these 53 officers, only one officer is from the Backward Class."

"You [the tribal people and OBCs] are unemployed because your people are not making decisions in the government," Mr. Gandhi had said at a rally soon after the Bihar government released its report of a caste-based survey. *The Hindu* spoke to people in many regions of the State, including Gwalior-Chambal, Bhopal-Hoshangabad and Mahakoshal, and found that the issue has gained little to no momentum among the voters and local Congress workers.

Poll plank: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi during a roadshow in support of his party candidates, in the old Bhopal area of Madhya Pradesh on Monday. A.M. FARUQUI

Pawan Sharma, a local Congress leader in Shivpuri, who is campaigning with the party candidate K. P. Singh, says that the caste census issue is not being discussed during the local campaigning. "Our campaigning mostly focuses on local issues. People don't know much about caste census here and we also don't try to explain it to them," Mr. Sharma told *The Hindu*.

"Let the big leaders talk about it from the stage, there are different issues on the ground," he said.

At Sasai village in the Kolaras constitituency, Gopal Rathore, a farmer, says that he supports the idea of caste-based counting of population but does not trust the Congress

Chhotu Jatav, a second-year BA student at a government college in Kolaras, does not know what a caste census is. He, however, has little hopes of getting a job after his graduation. "There are barely any jobs here. Instead of wasting my time in preparations, I will rather join my father in the field," he said.

There are also some who fear an emergence of a new age of caste politics in the Hindi heartland.

Chandrakant Jain, a pharmacy shop owner in Betul district's Sarni, said, "We remember the time after the Mandal commission report was implemented and we certainly do not want that time back. It will only bring in more divide among people."

A source in the Congress's Madhya Pradesh unit admitted that the issue had not been "as impactful among the masses as the party thought it would be".

"This issue was properly picked up by the top leadership after the Bihar report came out. Although we knew that it was difficult to make it the main poll issue on the ground, we had hoped to start a conversation ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls," the leader said on condition of anonymity. The leader said the caste census was a bigger issue at the national level and that local issues were dominating the political space in the State.

"This is the reason you must have noticed that while other leaders do mention the promise of caste census in their addresses, it is only Rahul *ji* who talks about it in detail," the leader explained, adding that Mr. Gandhi was preparing the ground for the next year's Lok Sabha polls.

Meanwhile, the BJP has kept relatively quiet on the subject and is expected to observe its impact in the Assembly polls before devising a strategy to counter the Congress' narrative.

Modi, Shah address rallies in M.P., take jibes at Cong. over crime, Ram Temple

Mehul Malpani
BHOPAL

A day after Deepavali and with just four days to go for the Madhya Pradesh Assembly election, top two Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, addressed rallies in the State to seek votes for the party as the campaigning enters its final phase.

Addressing a rally in Barwani district of Madhya Pradesh, Mr. Modi attacked the Congress and said that slogans such as "*sar tan se juda*" (head removed from the body) were only possible under the Congress rule.

"Could we have ever imagined hearing slogans like *sar tan se juda* in India? But this took place in the misrule of Congress, in the land of brave Rajasthan and in front of a camera," the Prime Minister said, referring to the murder of a tailor, Kanhaiya Lal, in Rajasthan's Udaipur last June.

The slogan, which is reportedly ascribed to the punishment for blasphemy in Islam, had been heard on multiple occasions in the country in the wake of the derogatory remarks on the Prophet by now-suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma. The tailor was also beheaded in front of a camera for allegedly extending his support to Ms. Sharma.

Last leg of campaign: Supporters of the BJP at Union Home Minister Amit Shah's public meeting for the Madhya Pradesh Assembly election, in Chachoura on Monday. ANI

While Madhya Pradesh will go to the polls on November 17, polling in Rajasthan will take place on November 25.

Mr. Modi said, "The Congress has one more identity and the youth need to understand this. Wherever the Congress comes to power, crime reaches a high there and riots become common. It becomes difficult for people to celebrate their festivals. You see in your neighbourhood of Rajasthan. What all has not happened there in the past five years."

Mr. Shah took on the Congress and its leader Rahul Gandhi over the issue of Ram Temple construction. He accused the Congress of "delaying, misleading and hindering" the issue of temple construction since Independence.

Saying that the Ram Temple is going to be inaugurated on January 22, Mr. Shah said, "Rahul Baba used to taunt [the BJP] every day that 'the temple will be built there but will not tell the date'. Congress leaders should listen with open ears, Ram Lalla is going to be seated in his temple on 22 January 2024."

Mr. Shah said that his party has promised to take every citizen of Madhya Pradesh to Ram Temple free of cost. "The people of Madhya Pradesh will not have to spend even a single rupee to visit Ram Temple," he added.

Top leaders of both – the BJP and the Congress – have been launching scathing attacks at one another with just three days left for the campaigning to conclude.

BJP slams Baghel, calls him kingpin of Mahadev App scam

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday launched a sharp attack on Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, and called him the "kingpin" of the Mahadev betting app case, an issue that has often been mentioned by the party throughout the campaign for the Assembly election in the State.

Speaking at a press conference held in the BJP's national headquarters in New Delhi, party spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia said that the "kingpin of this entire 'gotala' (scam) is Bhupesh Baghel" adding that strict action will be taken against Mr. Baghel.

Forensic analysis

Mr. Bhatia alleged that the recent forensic analysis and statements made by a "cash courier" had led to startling revelations of money, up to ₹508 crore, reportedly being paid out to Mr. Baghel.

"It's known to everyone that a two and a half years' term formula was supposed to be implemented in Chhattisgarh. But after two and a half years, a corrupt Bhupesh Baghel continues to remain as the Chief Minister. It is because of him filling the Gandhi family's coffers with public money," the BJP leader said while attacking the Congress party over the Mahadev app scam case.

> A corrupt Bhupesh Baghel continues to remain as the Chief Minister. It is because of him filling the Gandhi family's coffers with public money
>
> **GAURAV BHATIA**
> BJP spokesperson

"The BJP says 'Har Har Mahadev' (in praise of God Shiva) while Bhupesh Baghel says 'Ghar Ghar Mahadev app'," he alleged. "The people of Chhattisgarh have made up their mind to teach a lesson to a corrupt Baghel in these elections," Mr. Bhatia said.

Polling to the 90-member Chhattisgarh Assembly is being conducted in two phases, the first phase was completed on November 7 and the second will be held on Friday.

INBRIEF

Navy's school quiz 'THINQ' to have 23 international teams

The Indian Navy quiz 'THINQ', held for schoolchildren coinciding with the Navy week activities, has gone global this year riding on the partnership and support it has received from the G-20 Secretariat in a year that marks India's presidency of the prestigious G-20, the Navy said on Monday. The event, also called as the 'G-20 THINQ', is being conducted at two levels, national and international in Mumbai and New Delhi. "For the international round, invitations were extended to all G-20+9 nations and an impressive 23 international teams have indicated their interest to take part in it at New Delhi on November 19," the Navy said in a statement. "The grand finale is set to take place at the iconic India Gate, New Delhi on November 23, offering these bright school students a global stage for intellectual exchange and competition." THINQ, conducted by the Navy and NWWA (Navy Wellness and Welfare Association) has grown in popularity and numbers over the years.

Defence Minister holds talks with his U.K. counterpart

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday held a telephonic conversation with the U.K. Secretary of State for Defence Grant Shapps, during which the two Ministers discussed a range of defence and security issues with particular emphasis on the Indo-Pacific. They briefly reviewed the ongoing engagements and discussed possible cooperation in new domains, a Defence Ministry statement said. "Both Ministers explored ways and means to develop closer defence relations." Mr. Shapps invited Mr. Singh to visit the U.K. in the near future.

Delhi most polluted city in world: Swiss survey

Mumbai and Kolkata were other Indian metropolises on the list of 10 most polluted cities after Deepavali; data show that pollution in parts of the capital was 30 times higher than safe limits

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

On Monday, the day after Deepavali, three Indian metropolises figured on the list of the most polluted cities in the world compiled by the Swiss air purifier company IQAir.

Delhi was the most polluted city in the world with an air quality index (AQI) of 287 followed by Lahore, Pakistan, at 195. Mumbai, at 153, and Kolkata, 166, were among the top 10. The IQAir's AQI measures data from 109 countries, and the readings change hourly. It follows a U.S. methodology and varies slightly from the Indian one.

The values are a measure of the quantities of PM [particulate matter] 2.5, considered most harmful for respiratory health. Though pollution from firecrackers are short-lived compared with those from persistent sources such as vehicle emission and waste and biomass burning, the spike in pollutants has a pronounced effect on health.

Air pollution in parts of Delhi was 30 times the safe limits prescribed by the World Health Organization (WHO), contributed in part by the firecrackers lit on Sunday night, show figures from the Delhi Pollution Control Committee. This is despite a ban on firecrackers in the city.

Smog screen: Vehicles move amid low visibility in New Delhi, where an increase in pollution levels was noted after Deepavali. PTI

Continuing worry

The most updated readings from these cities, as of Monday, suggested that air quality is deteriorating, with several monitoring stations reporting a value of 400, classified as the "severe" category.

The air quality of Delhi is likely to be in the "severe" category on Tuesday and Wednesday, according to the Centre's Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi. Air pollution in the "severe" category "affects healthy people" and "seriously impacts those with existing diseases", says the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

Another joint analysis by Climate Trends and Respirer Living Sciences, which analysed all-India pollution levels on Deepavali day in several cities, reported that the highest average PM 2.5 pollution was reported from Patna, Bihar, at 206 microgram per cubic metre. Just as the IQAir ranking, it too reports Delhi as being the most polluted city on the day after Deepavali. Meanwhile, Bengaluru reported the lowest levels of PM 2.5 among 11 cities analysed and their figures were lower than last year's Deepavali (October 24), the report added.

'Phase out firecrackers'

"Already poor average PM 2.5 levels crossed limits due to firecrackers in several cities. Our analysis shows that widespread burning, in defiance of the Supreme Court orders, took away the gains (in reducing pollutants) that were made due to rain. The cracker industry must be phased out," Aarti Khosla, director, Climate Trends, said. "Delhi and other major cities must not continue to bear the burden of public health in the name of hollow support for traditions. We can look at community fireworks or lighting of lamps, as done in Ayodhya."

Last week, the hazardous air quality in Delhi, which the Centre attributed to stubble burning in Punjab, prompted emergency measures to be imposed, including plans to impose odd-even rules on the use of cars as well as experiments with artificial rain. An unexpected rain improved air quality by over 100 percentage points.

Jaishankar meets newly appointed U.K. Foreign Secretary

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's official visit to London had a surprise twist on Monday, when he met with former U.K. Prime Minister and the country's newly appointed Foreign Secretary David Cameron. Mr. Jaishankar was scheduled to meet with James Cleverly as Foreign Secretary, but Prime Minister Rishi Sunak had undertaken a major Cabinet reshuffle on Monday morning prior to Mr. Jaishankar's meeting.

Congratulating him on his appointment, Mr. Jaishankar said he looked forward to working with Mr. Cameron closely, adding that the two Ministers had held a detailed discussion on realising the full potential of the strategic partnership between the two countries. "Also exchanged views on the situation in West Asia, the Ukraine conflict and the Indo-Pacific," he said.

Mr. Jaishankar will meet Mr. Cleverly in his new avatar as Home Secretary on Monday.

Earlier on Monday, Mr. Jaishankar posted on X that he had met with another former British Prime Minister – Tony Blair, with whom he said he had discussed bilateral ties, Africa and West Asia.

With U.K. Defence Secretary Grant Shapps, Mr.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with the newly appointed U.K. Foreign Secretary David Cameron.

Jaishankar said he had discussed perspectives on global security challenges and convergences in the two countries' approaches.

Defence cooperation

He also discussed enhancing security and defence cooperation between India and the U.K. and opportunities for manufacturing (defence-related goods) in India.

On Sunday, Mr. Jaishankar and his wife, Kyoko Jaishankar, met with Mr. Sunak and his wife, Akshata Murty. The Jaishankars also visited the Swaminarayan temple in London for Deepavali.

Mr. Jaishankar has moderated a discussion organised by the Indian High Commission, London, and the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office's (FCDO) Wilton Park. The Minister is in the U.K. until the end of Wednesday.

Centre asks States to use tracking devices on prison inmates released on parole

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry has said States may use tracking devices on prison inmates when they are released on parole. It also called for segregation of hardened criminals from other category of criminals.

"The State may use electronic monitoring technology on prisoners under temporary release/leave from prison, by making use of inmate tracking devices," the suggestion which is part of the Model Prisons and Correctional Services Act, 2023 that was circulated to all States in May said.

People stand outside the main entrance of the Tihar jail.

On Monday, a copy of the Act was published on the Ministry's website. "Prisoners may be granted prison leave on the condition of their willingness to wear electronic tracking devices for monitoring the movement and activities of such prisoners. Any violation by the prisoner will attract cancellation of prison leave, in addition to disqualification from any prison leave being granted in future, as may be prescribed under the rules," it said.

Earlier this month, the Jammu and Kashmir Police introduced GPS tracker anklet for monitoring a terror accused out on bail.

The Act said that appropriate and advanced security infrastructure and procedures shall be in place for the high-risk prisoner ward in all central and district prisons. It also asks the States to digitise the prison administration and integrate the database with the Interoperable Criminal Justice System.

'Foreign degrees in Indian institutions may require equivalence'

R. Sujatha
CHENNAI

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has gazetted the regulations for foreign universities that plan to set up campuses in India. But many educators wonder if the degrees offered by foreign universities will be accepted by the UGC, and how the commission will proceed with the issue of equivalence for the degrees.

The UGC's 2021 regulations permit foreign universities to collaborate with Indian higher educational institutions to offer twinning, joint, and dual-degree programmes. It states that qualifications awarded under the regulations "shall be equivalent to any corresponding degree awarded by the Indian Higher Educational Institution".

The regulations, gazetted on November 8, stipulate that "there shall be no further requirement of seeking equivalence and the degree shall have all benefits, rights and privileges as obtained in case of a degree awarded by an Indian higher education institution". Educators in private universities wondered how the regulation has been introduced when the UGC Act makes no such provision. "Through its regulations, the Ministry of Education is trying to allow the entry of foreign institutions," an educator said.

Veteran parliamentarian and CPI(M) leader Basudeb Acharia passes away at 81

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Basudeb Acharia, veteran MP, trade union leader and Central Committee member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), passed away on Monday in a private hospital in Hyderabad. He was 81 and is survived by two daughters and a son.

Mr. Acharia represented the Bankura Lok Sabha constituency nine times from 1980 till 2014. He was born in Bero in Purulia district of West Bengal. After starting his career as a schoolteacher, he became a leader of the All Bengal Teachers' Association, the teacher's wing of the CPI(M).

Basudeb Acharia

Mr. Acharia became a member of the CPI(M) Purulia district committee in 1981 and was elected to the West Bengal State committee in 1985.

He was also a district secretariat member and elected to the CPI(M) Central Committee in 2005.

He served as the chairman of the Central Control Commission from 2018 to 2022.

CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury took to social media to express 'deepfelt condolences to his family members'.

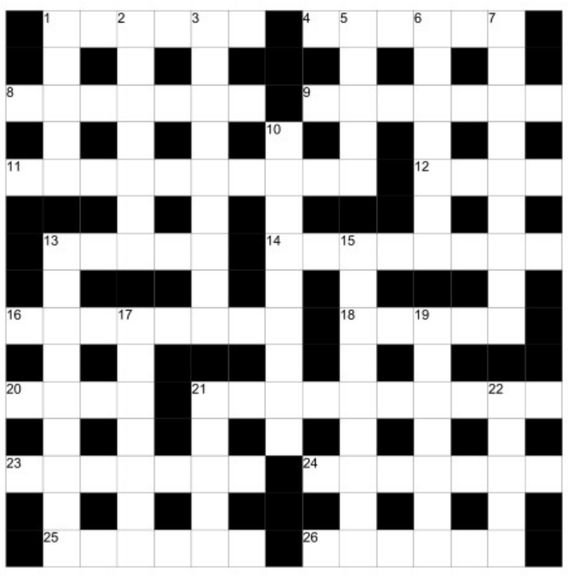
"Comrade Basudeb Acharia was active in the trade union movement for a long time. He was a leader of Railway workers, coal workers, and the DVC workers. He was arrested in 1974 during the historic rail strike. Later, he led many trade unions in different sectors. He was also the vice president of CITU (Centre for Indian Trade Unions)," a statement by the party said.

TH CROSSWORD + 14019

(set by Bruno)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 They help make mobile calls to young ones (3-3)
4 Politician in Indian atmosphere creates harm (6)
8 Extremely saggy ragged top was purchased by married man - is that a warning? (7)
9 Extend help - turning it into fee (7)
11 Weary setter overcome by house payment withdrawal (10)
12 Dula turned old in Glasgow (4)
13 Mediterranean herb - it's missing in distinctness (5)
14 Major artist countering major problem - that could be spicy (8)
16 Wash cruddy pants after removing middle part with rest (3,5)
18 Jet's operational without secondary fuel (5)
20 1001 staff? (4)
21 Sewer rats scurrying - starting to chew through salad greens (10)
23 Device in secret pad automatically rotates (7)
24 Lad eating solitary sausage (7)
25 Stream's passage originally changed by river (6)
26 Ruined sibling's toy (6)

Down

1 It can add flavour to your old marriage while on vacation (5)
2 Father pocketed rupees one thousand for spice (7)
3 A new convert to polyester weaving (9)
5 Bad tempered tabloid's heading was intended (5)
6 Musical style from the past - it's a tad tedious & boring (7)
7 After some time reflecting, I had to pay someone back (9)
10 Base of soft fur wrapped around a coat's bottom end (9)
13 Herb or rice curry with stuffing (9)
15 One stores water from flowing rivers or streams, essentially (9)
17 Good deal in screen's even lower (7)
19 Set fire shortly to land to get herb (7)
21 In which place does wife lead husband before? (5)
22 Starting to spend energy involved in family entanglement (5)

SUDOKU

4					8		6	
		2		5	7			8
		9				3		
3				9				
8	4	5				1	2	9
				8				4
		4				6		
7			3	4		9		
	5		8					2

No.SS5977 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

P	O	U	L	T	I	C	E	
L		N		H		L		
I	N	F	E	R	I	O	R	
G		U		E		T		P
H	O	R	S	E	S	H	O	E
T		L				E		G
			M	I	S	S		
M		V		R				
A	N	E	M	O	N	E		
G		R		N		X		U
N	Y	M	P	H		P	O	L
E		O		O		O	K	
S	Q	U	A	R	E		M	I
I		T		S			L	
A	C	H	I	E	R		E	Y

E	M	P	I	R	E			
	I		N		S			
G	L	O	V	E	S			
	L		E		A			
I	C	I	L	Y				
G		G		I				
S	U	R	P	L	U	S		
	A		E		T			
S	U	M	O					
			O		S			
P	O	L	E	V	A	U	L	T
	I		T		R			
M	I	G	R	A	I	N	E	
L		U		N		E		
E	Y	E	S	I	G	H	T	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	1	7	5	2	4	6	8	3
6	5	4	3	1	8	9	7	2
3	8	2	9	7	6	1	4	5
8	6	5	7	9	3	4	2	1
4	3	1	8	5	2	7	9	6
2	7	9	6	4	1	5	3	8
1	4	3	2	6	9	8	5	7
7	2	6	4	8	5	3	1	9
5	9	8	1	3	7	2	6	4

FAITH

Cleansing agents for mind

Body, mind and *aatman* form a great combination. For the dust-laden body, we use various cleaning ingredients to remove and keep our body hygienic, fresh and fragrant. Velukudi Sri Krishnan Swamy said in a discourse that our mind may be affected by dirt such as greed, anger, lust, confusion, jealousy and arrogance. Srimad Bhagavad Gita Chapter III sloka 40 (*Indriyani Mano Buddhi:*) says the senses, the mind and the intellect are the instruments of desire. Through attachment to sense objects, desire deludes the embodied soul.

Is there any cleansing agent to clean our minds? Pathanjali Maharshi says in the Yogasastra that there are four cleansing agents - Maithree, Karuna, Mudhita and Upeksha. Maithree refers to friendship. We have to befriend everyone and avoid hatred and enmity. Karuna denotes compassion. If a person finds anyone in distress, he should help him spontaneously. Mudhita means to treat the pleasure and pain equally. The contact of senses with their objects gives rise to feelings of cold and heat, pleasure and pain, and they come and go. They occur due to our karma, and we have to endure them. It may not be easy. Upeksha refers to not going in pursuit of things. We have to leave better whatever is not required. These four will help free us from troubles and make us happy.

QUETTA

Pakistan opens three new border crossings to deport Afghans

AFP

Pakistan opened three new border crossings to expedite the deportation of Afghans living in the country illegally. Nearly 3,00,000 Afghans have left Pakistan in recent weeks since authorities started arresting and deporting foreign nationals after the Oct. 31 deadline for migrants without legal status to leave the country voluntarily. AP

SEOUL

South Korea, U.S. revise deterrence agreement to counter North Korea

AP

U.S. and South Korean defence chiefs updated a key military agreement against nuclear-armed North Korea for the first time in a decade as they hailed their "stronger than ever" alliance. U.S. Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin is in Seoul for an annual security meeting with his South Korean counterpart Shin Won-sik. AFP

MANILA

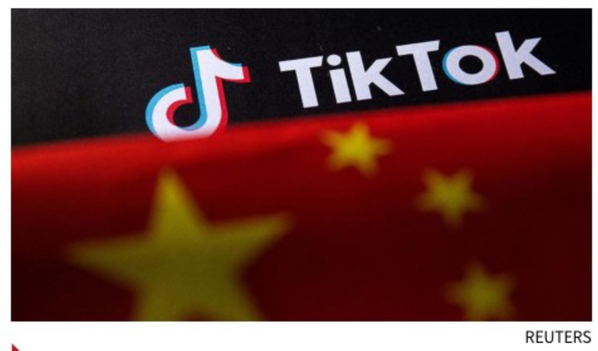
Philippine court grants bail to jailed 'drug war' critic of Duterte

AFP

A Philippine court ordered the release on bail of former senator Leila de Lima jailed more than six years ago on drug charges she said were fabricated to muzzle her investigation of then-President Rodrigo Duterte's brutal crackdown on illegal drugs. Human rights experts across the world have long demanded her release. AP

KATHMANDU

Nepal to ban China's TikTok, alleges damaging social impact



REUTERS

Nepal is set to ban China's TikTok, saying that social harmony and goodwill were being disturbed by "misuse" of the popular video app. TikTok has already been either partially or completely banned by other countries. More than 1,600 TikTok-related cybercrime cases have been registered over the past four years in Nepal. REUTERS

Eight pro-Iran fighters dead in U.S. strikes in Syria

Agence France-Presse
BEIRUT

At least eight pro-Iran fighters were killed in U.S. strikes on eastern Syria, a war monitor said on Monday, a day after Washington carried out raids in response to attacks on American forces.

The toll is "eight pro-Iran fighters dead, including at least one Syrian, and Iraqi nationals", the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said, following the strikes late on Sunday near the Iraqi border.

It was the third time in less than three weeks that the U.S. military has targeted locations in Syria it said were tied to Iran, which supports various armed groups that Washington blames for a spike in attacks on its forces in West Asia.

The surge is linked to the war between Israel and Hamas.

Battles around hospitals in Gaza force Palestinians to flee

Critically wounded patients, including newborn babies and their caregivers, are left stranded in hospitals as a result of these attacks that have further led to dwindling supplies and no electricity

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Battles around hospitals forced thousands of Palestinians to flee from some of the last shelters in northern Gaza, stranding critically wounded patients, including newborns, and their caregivers with dwindling supplies and no electricity, health officials said on Monday.

The Israeli military has urged Palestinians to flee south on foot through what it calls safe corridors. But its purported drive to separate civilians from Hamas militants has come at a heavy cost, with more than two-thirds of the territory's population of 2.3 million having already fled their homes.

Thousands fled Gaza's Shifa Hospital over the weekend as Israeli troops encircled it, but hundreds of patients and displaced people remained, according to officials. Shifa "is not functioning as a hospital anymore," World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said. A second Gaza City hospital faces evacuations after running out of fuel.

Cursed start: Prematurely born Palestinian babies in Shifa Hospital in Gaza City on Sunday. AP

For Palestinians, Shifa evokes the suffering of civilians. For weeks, staff running low on supplies have performed surgery there on war-wounded patients, including children, without anesthesia. Up until days ago, tens of thousands of people driven from their homes by airstrikes lived in and around the complex, hoping it would be safe.

Israel says Hamas shields itself among civilians, and that the hospital, Gaza's largest, is a prime example. It says the militants have a command center in and beneath the medical compound. Israel has released maps and diagrams showing what it says are bunkers and other Hamas installations in and around Shifa, but has not provided any evidence.

Israeli officials recently released photos and footage showing what they described as the opening of a tunnel next to another hospital, as well as gunmen firing from inside the building.

Both Hamas and Shifa hospital staff deny the Israeli allegations.

Days before new Maldives President assumes office, Nasheed quits as Speaker

Agence France-Presse
MALÉ

The Maldives Speaker of Parliament, Mohamed Nasheed, resigned on Monday, days before the swearing-in of a new President following a fiercely contested election in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Parliamentary elections are not due until the second quarter of next year, meaning that President-elect Mohamed Muizzu – who takes power on Friday after winning September polls – will have to work with an Opposition-controlled parliament.

Mr. Nasheed, who is also a former President, decided to quit from the number two position in the country to head off a no-confidence motion by ruling party legislators, a close aide told AFP.

"He didn't want a no-trust vote against him and decided to resign," the aide said.

Mohamed Nasheed

Mr. Nasheed caught international attention for holding a 2009 Cabinet meeting underwater to highlight the threat of global warming, signing documents as officials wore scuba gear with coral reefs in the background.

He was toppled in a military-backed coup in 2012, convicted on a terrorism charge and jailed for 13 years.

He left the country on medical leave and sought refuge in Britain, returning to the Maldives after President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih won the presidency in 2018 with his backing.

In 2019, Mr. Nasheed became Speaker after his Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) won parliamentary elections, but he quit the party in June over differences with Mr. Solih.

Mr. Nasheed, a world-renowned climate campaigner, survived an assassination attempt in May 2021, spending five months in Germany for treatment after a bomb blast.

There has been no claim of responsibility, but the MDP has blamed religious extremists in the tiny Islamic republic of 3,80,000 Sunni Muslims, which practises a liberal form of the religion and is known for its upmarket tourism.

Ranil presents Budget aimed at aiding economic recovery in Sri Lanka

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Monday unveiled the country's Budget for the fiscal year of 2024, outlining a significant increase in expenditure while setting ambitious revenue targets as he attempts to steer the island nation out of last year's debilitating economic crisis.

Terming the task of economic revival following bankruptcy a "formidable" one, Mr. Wickremesinghe, who is also the Finance Minister, told Parliament: "Our country's situation is now better than what it was a year ago. I am not saying that the economy has recovered completely. It has become comparatively better."

The largest component of government expenditure, Mr. Wickremesinghe said, went towards three areas – public sector salaries, pensions and public welfare, and payment of interest on the government's debt. According to figures published in the Budget document, the highest expenditure among those will be incurred on servicing the country's debt and paying the interest. On the other hand, while Mr. Wickremesinghe acknowledged the government had "failed to generate" the targeted revenue of LKR 2.8 trillion for 2023, his Budget set an even higher target of LKR 4.1 trillion for 2024.

Commenting on the proposals, Umesh Moramudali, an economist at the University of Colombo, said that although the Budget was largely focused on continuing the exercise of "stabilising" the economy, with revenue-based consolidation, it included "politically popular" expenditure proposals such as the promised hike for public sector workers. "The government says they want to make cash transfers to 2 million people, but 183 billion rupees [LKR] does not seem sufficient for that," he contended.

Ranil Wickremesinghe

Overlooked problems

The Feminist Collective for Economic Justice, an island-wide group of researchers and activists studying the impact of the crisis on women and the working people, said that its concerns over the government's social security programme excluding many of the poor, remain. Further, the Budget does not offer any substantive policy intervention or budgetary allocation to address challenges such as increasing malnutrition among children or food insecurity, while many Sri Lankans, especially children, continue to survive on just one meal a day, observed Niyanthini Kadirgamar, a member of the Collective.

"On the expenditure side, we see a considerable chunk of the Budget going towards the repayment of interest on the government's loans. As for revenue, the government appears to have high expectations, mainly by collecting indirect taxes. But that would only further increase the burden on the poor," she said.

Multiple studies, including by the World Bank, have pointed to growing poverty levels in Sri Lanka. While Mr. Wickremesinghe pointed to the reducing rate of inflation, he admitted that "we still could not correspondingly increase salaries and income to match the high cost of living which increased due to this severe crisis. The increase in prices of fuel and electricity adversely impacted all households."

Authorities frequently point to the drop in the rate of inflation – 1.5 % in October 2023 – but rarely mention that it is over and above the 70% witnessed last year.

Leader of Opposition Sajith Premadasa called the Budget as a "media circus", while prominent Opposition voice and Leader of the National Peoples Power (NPP) Anura Kumara Dissanayake said the Budget was based on "seeking [more] loans" and "selling state assets".

Pakistan and China Navies to carry out joint sea patrol

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The exercise comes just a day after the 2+2 Ministerial dialogue between India and the U.S.

China and Pakistan are conducting the third edition of the Sea Guardian-3 bilateral naval exercise in the northern Arabian Sea with Chinese media reporting that the two sides will also hold their maiden joint maritime patrol. The exercise is scheduled from November 11 to 17.

The exercise comes just a day after the 2+2 Ministerial dialogue between India and the U.S. where maritime security in the Indo-Pacific was in focus and New Delhi announced its decision to become a full-member of the Bahrain-based U.S.-led multilateral grouping Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), of which Pakistan is also a member.

The exercise also comes days after Russia and Myanmar held their first naval exercise in the Andaman Sea.

China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy has deployed a Type-093 Song class diesel-electric submarine for the exercise. "China and Pakistan will conduct their first joint maritime patrol and will also exchange observers. The Chinese observers will participate with a Pakistani anti-submarine patrol aircraft," the official Chinese Army news portal reported.

Other ammunitions

In addition to the conventional submarine, the PLA Navy has deployed guided-missile destroyer Zibo, guided-missile frigates Jingzhou and Linyi along with two shipborne helicopters and supply ship Qiandaohu, lead ship of the Type 903 replenishment ships. Pakistani Navy has deployed nine vessels along with three shipborne helicopters, four fighter jets and one maritime patrol aircraft.

Iran hangs three over 2019 bombing attacks

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Iran hanged on Monday three men who were convicted of carrying out the 2019 bombing attacks in the restive southeastern province of Sistan-Baluchistan, the judiciary said.

The three men were sentenced to death after they were found guilty of bombing attacks targeting a police station and a patrol vehicle in Zahedan, the capital of Sistan-Baluchistan province.

The defendants were also convicted over "receiving military training, transferring and hiding bomb-making materials".

They were also found guilty of being part of the Sunni jihadist Jaish al-Adl (Army of Justice) group, which was formed in 2012 and is blacklisted by Iran as a "terrorist" organisation, the judiciary's Mizan website said. Iran executes more people per year than any other nation except China, according to human rights groups including Amnesty International.

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No.F.1(1)(Scientist-II)/2023-24/Adm.I Date : 14.11.2023

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Applications for the postions of **Project Scientist-II/ Research Associate/Young Professionals-II & I at ICAR-CTRI,** Rajahmundry on contractual & co-terminus basis are invited. The complete notification regarding eligibility etc., is made available on ICAR-CTRI website. The applications should reach this office within 20 days from the date of this notification.

(V.BHAGYA LAKSHMI)
ADMINISTRTIVE OFFICER

LOOK OUT NOTICE

1) VIPIN LAL, Age: 24, S/o GOPALAN, KANIYAM KANDY (HO), AVADUKKA (PO), KOZHIKODE

2) PRANAV, (Age: 31), S/O PRAKASHAN, VADAKKE THAYYIL (HO), THANDORAPPARA (PO), KOZHIKODE

2) Pranav involved Peruvannamoozhi Police Station Crime No. 133/2023 U/s 143, 147, 148, 341, 323, 324, r/w 149 IPC Added Section 326 IPC Case and 1) Vipin Lal also involved in Peruvannamoozhi Police Station Crime No. 134/2023 U/s 354, 354(A)(I)(i) 8,7 of POCSO Act the accused in the case. Accused has been absconding since 20.04.2023. If any information receives regarding this persons kindly inform in the below mentioned telephone numbers.

Inspector SHO, Peruvannamoozhi Police Station 9497947317

Sub Inspector, Peruvannamoozhi Police Station 9497980791

3092/F2/2023/I&PRD

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 253/2023-24/KWA/PHC/TVLA(Rt-3), 254/2023-24/KWA/PHC/TVLA(Rt-3), 255/2023-24/KWA/PHC/TVLA (Rt-3), 256/2023-24/KWA/ PHC/TVLA (Rt-3) 1) JJM - RWSS to Chittar- Design, Construction and commissioning of 8 MLD WTP and allied works including O&M for 3 years. **2) JJM -** 5th SWSM - WSS to Pramadom and V. Kottayam Villages - Construction and Commissioning of 9m dia Intake Well Cum Pump house, Raw water Pumping mains, Raw water Pump sets, Transformer and allied works including road restoration charges. **3) JJM -** Pandalam Thekkekara and Thumpamon pts : Construction of 5.5 LL OHSR at Keerukuzhy, 9.5 LL OHSR at Thaliyattukulam and 6.0 LL OHSR at Malappuram and allied works. **4) JJM -** 5th SLSSC Kurichy Grama Panchayath - Demolishing damaged OHSR and Constructing 7.00 LL capacity OHSR, laying Pumping and distribution mains, pump sets including road restoration. **EMD :** Rs. 200000, 200000, 200000, 500000, **Tender fee :** Rs. 13010, 13010,13010,19518, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 28-11-2023 02:00:pm, **Phone :** 0469-2600162, **Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

KWA-JB-GL-6-1578-2023-24

Superintending Engineer
PH Circle, Pathanamthitta

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned by Government of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement)

BESCOM invites tenders through e-procurement platform from eligible Bidders for Enquiry Nos.: BESCOM/2023-24/UC/WORK_INDENT38 and BESCOM/2023-24/UC/WORK_INDENT39 for **"Repairs / Rectification of faults in HT/LT Underground Cable in East & South Circle jurisdiction of BESCOM for a period of two years on total turnkey basis". Bid documents available:** 16.11.2023. **Last date for bid submission:** 01.12.2023 15:00 Hrs. **Opening of bid documents:** 02.12.2023 15:15 Hrs.

The Tenders can be obtained through kppp portal web-site **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. Aspiring Bidders need to register on kppp portal. Further Bidders can take assistance with kppp help desk contact numbers (+91-8046010000, +91-8068948777) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com.

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No. 18618/OMC/Persnl./2023 Date: 13/11/2023

ADDENDUM

In continuation to the Advertisement **No. 81/OMC dated 13.10.2023**, the last date of receipt of application for the post of General Manager (Geology) in E-7 Grade, which was on 13.11.2023, is hereby **extended up to 28.11.2023.**

Candidates already applied against this Advt. need not apply again.

All other terms & conditions of the above advertisement shall remain unchanged.

N.B. Candidates are advised to visit OMC website regularly for further updates.

Sd/-
General Manager (P & A)

INBRIEF

U.S. Treasury yields edge up after Moody's lowers outlook

U.S. Treasury yields edged higher on Monday, with investors largely shrugging off a decision by ratings agency Moody's to downgrade its outlook on the U.S. credit rating. Moody's late on Friday lowered its outlook on the U.S. AAA credit rating to "negative" from "stable" citing large fiscal deficits and a decline in debt affordability. Treasury yields edged marginally higher in London, with analysts expecting little impact given prior downgrades of the U.S. rating. REUTERS

Inflow into MF industry declines to ₹34,765 cr. in Q2

The mutual fund industry continued with the positive momentum in the September quarter, attracting ₹34,765 crore, although it was a massive reduction from the ₹1.85 lakh crore inflow in the preceding quarter, primarily due to withdrawal from the debt segment. Most asset classes saw net inflows during the July-September period of the current financial barring the fixed-income or debt segment, which witnessed net outflows, according to Morningstar India. PTI

'Generative AI will help add new lines of business in a year'

As many as 90% organisations surveyed said generative AI will help them add new lines of business over the next 12 months, according to PwC's 2024 Digital Trust Insights. Newer regulations around cyber security and data privacy like the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 have added to the strategic importance of enhanced cyber investments for organisations, PwC said in the report based on a comprehensive survey with 136 participants from India. PTI

Goldman upgrades Indian shares

U.S. brokerage turns bullish on Indian shares, cites strong economic growth, steady domestic mutual fund inflows and a potential supply chain shift from China; it pegs the country's real economic growth at 6.5% in 2023 and 6.3% in 2024

Reuters
BENGALURU

Goldman Sachs upgraded Indian shares to "overweight" from "market-weight", citing strong economic growth prospects, steady domestic mutual fund inflows and a potential supply chain shift from China.

Indian markets will continue to gain in 2024, supported by steady earnings growth and macroeconomic stability in what would otherwise be a "tricky" period in the Asia Pacific region, Goldman Sachs analysts led by Timothy Moe wrote in a note.

"We believe India has the best structural growth prospects in the Asia Pacific region and offers mid-teen earnings growth over the next two years," Mr. Moe said in a note.

The Wall Street brokerage expects India's real economic growth to be 6.5% in 2023 and 6.3% in 2024—the highest among large economies in the region, but slightly below the Indian central bank's target of 6.5% for fiscal 2024.

The benchmark Nifty 50 jumped about 31% between March 2021 and October 2023, a period during which domestic investors remained net buyers each month, helping tide over sustained sales by foreign investors.

While the domestic participation was a healthy sign, said Goldman, it also noted the market's surge has pushed valuations to an elevated 20 times the next 12 month's expected earnings. Still, that valuation had some support after earnings growth of 17% in 2023, it said.

The brokerage said concerns over China's economy could lead to countries shifting their supply chains, which could benefit India. The Nifty 50 has gained roughly 7% in 2023 so far, compared to a 3.75% drop in the MSCI Asia ex-Japan index.

Rising prospects

Goldman Sachs turns bullish on Indian stocks citing steady earnings growth and macroeconomic stability

- The brokerage believes India has the best growth prospects in the Asia Pacific region
- Nifty 50 jumped 31% between March 2021 and October 2023 despite sales by foreigners
- Goldman, however, warns the market's surge has pushed valuations to elevated levels

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	64,934	0.50
US Dollar	83.33	-0.06
Gold	60,700	-0.81
Brent oil	82.38	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2213.65	2.30
Adani Ports	809.85	-2.40
Apollo Hosp	5220.65	-54.90
Asian Paints	3085.60	-12.55
Axis Bank	1025.35	-4.60
Bajaj Auto	5425.20	-17.35
Bajaj Finserv	1585.20	-9.40
Bajaj Finance	7360.85	-96.05
Bharti Airtel	935.00	-3.00
BPCL	387.10	3.00
Britannia Ind	4696.35	19.75
Cipla	1240.55	-3.40
Coal India	349.35	17.55
Divis Lab	3510.00	-6.90
Dr Reddys Lab	5419.85	-29.90
Eicher Motors	3645.40	66.10
Grasim Ind	1928.85	-17.25
HCL Tech	1261.00	0.80
HDFC Bank	1488.80	-11.20
HDFC Life	621.05	-5.85
Hero MotoCorp	3118.80	3.60
Hindalco	487.50	5.05
Hind Unilever	2478.15	-13.40
ICICI Bank	934.45	-7.90
IndusInd Bank	1509.60	7.50
Infosys	1373.55	-14.65
ITC	436.00	-2.45
JSW Steel	761.10	4.55
Kotak Bank	1748.20	-4.30
L&T	3048.50	-3.50
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5261.10	-2.80
M&M	1540.25	14.00
Maruti Suzuki	10398.40	-33.00
NestleIndia	24085.85	-197.50
NTPC	245.70	1.15
ONGC	195.80	-0.95
PowerGrid Corp	212.30	0.30
Reliance Ind	2314.60	-16.05
SBI Life	1328.35	-30.50
State Bank	581.35	0.05
Sun Pharma	1177.80	-2.80
TataConsumerProduct	916.55	1.25
Tata Motors	653.25	-0.30
Tata Steel	121.00	0.15
TCS	3331.55	-25.75
Tech Mahindra	1131.35	-10.80
Titan	3264.75	-15.85
UltraTech Cement	8677.40	-33.70
UPL	552.70	-3.05
Wipro	381.65	-0.80

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 13

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.13	83.45
Euro	88.85	89.20
British Pound	101.73	102.13
Japanese Yen (100)	54.78	54.99
Chinese Yuan	11.40	11.45
Swiss Franc	92.14	92.49
Singapore Dollar	61.13	61.37
Canadian Dollar	60.19	60.45
Malaysian Ringitt	17.65	17.73
Australian Dollar	53.01	53.21

Source:Indian Bank

'One-fourth infra projects hit by ₹5 lakh cr. cost overruns in Sept.'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

About 417 infrastructure projects, each with investments of ₹150 crore or more, have been hit by cost overruns of more than ₹4.77 lakh crore in September, mentions the latest report by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

The Ministry, which monitors infrastructure projects worth ₹150 crore or more, said out of 1,763 projects, about one-fourth (417) reported cost overruns and half (842) have been delayed.

"Total original cost of implementation of the 1,763 projects was ₹24,86,402.70 crore and their anticipated completion cost is likely to be ₹29,64,345.13 crore," which reflected cost overruns of almost 20% of the original cost, the report mentioned.

For 298 projects neither the year of commissioning nor tentative gestation periods have been reported and the average time overrun in these projects is reported to be more than three years.

Reasons for time overruns as per implementing agencies include delays in land acquisition, obtaining environment clearances, lack of infrastructure support and linkages; delays in project financing, finalisation of detailed engineering and change in scope.

Project executing agencies are not reporting revised cost estimates and commissioning schedules for many projects, suggesting time/cost overrun figures are under-reported, the report added.

Wheels India eyes 20% export growth in current fiscal

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Wheels India Ltd. (WIL) is eyeing 20% growth in exports in FY24, and expects to win orders for light and medium construction wheels; larger tractor wheels, and the fabrication and hydraulic cylinder business, managing director Srivats Ram said in a call with analysts.

"We expect to win these orders from Q4 this year. These wheels are used in Europe and North America. So these are three areas where we see export potential," he said. WIL is also looking to grow its fabrication and hydraulic cylinder business in the next fiscal.

Emphasising that new orders were needed to maintain export growth, he said: "We have had strong export growth so far this year; next year would be challenging, we may need new businesses to ensure we show growth and do not degrow exports."

In the first half, WIL posted decent growth in exports, despite the slowdown in Europe. Asian markets were strong, Mr. Ram noted.

GeM procurement crosses ₹2 lakh crore on buying activity

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

In 2021-22, total procurement stood at ₹1.06 lakh cr. and is expected to cross ₹3 lakh cr. this year

The procurement of goods and services from the government portal GeM has crossed ₹2 lakh crore so far this fiscal due to higher buying activity by different ministries and departments.

The government e-Market (GeM) portal was launched on August 9, 2016, for online purchases of goods and services by all the central government ministries and departments.

"Government e-Marketplace achieves an impressive ₹2 lakh crore gross merchandise value in just eight months of 2023-24," Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said.

In 2021-22, the procurement value stood at ₹1.06 lakh crore. It crossed ₹2 lakh crore last year, and going by the trend this year, it may cross ₹3 lakh crore.

GeM has over 63,000 government buyer organisations and over 62 lakh sellers and service providers.

Dabur sees 'very good recovery' in rural markets

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Home-grown FMCG major Dabur India is seeing "very good recovery" in rural markets and expects growth from these markets to come at par with the urban market in the next 3-4 quarters, CEO Mohit Malhotra said.

As inflation is coming down with the cooling of commodity prices, a "slow volume recovery" is happening in those markets, he said.

The recovery is expected to continue led by the hike in MSP, good sowing of winter crops, and the election season.

Diwali sales sparkle, bringing cheer to retailers and manufacturers

The Hindu Bureau

Diwali brought cheer to retailers and producers on news of a spike in consumption across categories ranging from jewellery, white goods, auto, saris and home decor, to sweets.

Growth is in line with trends forecast in August and September, when electronic permits for shipping goods across States touched record highs, showing increased orders and high festival demand.

The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) estimated that on Diwali, retail markets across India registered a record trade of ₹3.75 lakh crore.

The momentum is likely to continue through the upcoming festivals season.

Gold adds sheen

On Dhanteras this year, gold jewellery sales rose 15-25% compared with last year, said Colin Shah, MD, Kama Jewelry.

There was a surge in low-ticket purchases, which contributed to the overall growth in festival sales. Strong demand came in from Tier-2 cities along with metros.

H. Mohanlal Jain, Director, All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council and proprietor of Lalchand Hastimal Jewellers in Secunderabad, said, "Gold jewellery, silver, diamonds, and bullion sales were very good. Sales were 30% more than last year, quantity-wise. Value-wise, it will be more."

This year, gold and silver coins were available on instant commerce apps. Blinkit founder and CEO Albinder Dhindsa posted on X (Twitter) an image of 100 silver coins going out on a single order, saying the coins were flying off the shelves.

Cars and bikes vroom

Automakers reported strong festival demand. Manish Raj Singhania, President, Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA), said, "Discussions among dealers suggest Dhanteras and Diwali this year are poised to experience exceptionally strong retail performance. The momentum observed in the two and three-wheeler segments mirrors Navratri, while there is a modest increase in passenger vehicle sales compared to Navratri period."

(With inputs from businessline reporters)

Biocon arm gets nod for ophthalmology biosimilar

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Biocon subsidiary Biocon Biologics has received marketing authorisation from the U.K.'s Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) for Yesafili, a biosimilar of Aflibercept.

An ophthalmology product, Yesafili is highly similar to the reference product Eylea (aflibercept). Data show that it has comparable quality, safety and efficacy to Eylea, the company said. Aflibercept brand sales in the U.K. were $790 million, it said, citing MAT June 2023 IQVIA numbers).

ABD expands capacity of distillery in Telangana

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

IMFL company Allied Blenders and Distillers (ABD) has expanded the capacity of its Rangapur distillery in Telangana from 54.75 million litres to 65 million litres.

The unit makes extra-neutral alcohol (ENA), a key raw material used in the manufacture of alcoholic beverages, the company said on completion of the expansion that it had carried out through internal accruals.

The capacity expansion was undertaken in a sustainable and environment-friendly manner, the firm's MD Alok Gupta said.

KASE
KERALA ACADEMY FOR SKILLS EXCELLENCE
Skill Development Mission of Government of Kerala
Registered Office: III Floor, Carmel Tower, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram- 695 014. Website: www.kase.kerala.gov.in
No: KASE-960/2020/Exe 3 10.11.2023
E-TENDER NOTICE
KASE invites proposals from eligible organisations for undertaking the following. Interested parties may submit **e-tender through www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

NAME OF WORK	TENDER ID
Skill Gap study & Impact Evaluation of existing short term skilling Programmes in Kerala State	2023_KASE_621098_1

Sd/- Managing Director
RO No. D3/141/2023/I&PRD

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE
1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. CCE/BLS/NCB/52
Invited vide this office Letter No.5153 dt.27.10.2023
Due to unavoidable circumstances, partial modifications of Road Works under SACI vide above identification have been made as follows :-

Sl.No.	Items	As per Original TCN	As per 1st Corrigendum to TCN & DTCN
1.	Last date of Availability of tender	Dt.16.11.2023 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.21.11.2023 upto 5.00 PM
2.	Last Date & time of seeking tender Clarification	Dt.15.11.2023 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.20.11.2023 up to 5.00 P.M.
3.	Date of Opening of Technical Bid	Dt.17.11.2023 up to 11.00 A.M.	Dt.22.11.2023 up to 11.00 A.M.

All other terms & conditions remain unaltered
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore
O-1514: OIPR-25105/11/0068/2324

NOTICE INVITING BID
Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMCL)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751001
Assuring Quality, Saving Lives
Tel.:(0674) 2380950; Website: www.osmcl.nic.in ;
Email: drugs-osmcl@gov.in
Bid Ref. No.: OSMCL/2023-24/OTH-DHS-I&L/09 Date : 13/11/2023
Online Bids through **e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in)** are invited from eligible bidders for **Supply of Insecticides and Larvicides as per the particulars mentioned below :**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time	
1.	Date & time of release of bid	13/11/2023, 3 PM	
2.	Date & time for submission of queries by E-Mail id - drugs-osmcl@gov.in	16/11/2023, up to 5:00 PM	
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		20/11/2023, 3 PM	11/12/2023, 6.00 PM
4.	Date & time for submission of Tender Documents, Tender Document Fee and EMD amount as per section-IV of tender document.	Start Date & Time	End Date & Time
		12/12/2023, 10 AM	19/12/2023,11.00 AM
5.	Date & time of Online Technical bid Opening	19/12/2023, 11:30 AM	
6.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders	

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, EMDs, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: **www.osmcl.nic.in** and **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** . The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.
SD/-
Managing Director, OSMC Ltd., Odisha
CAD-2820 OIPR-10112/11/0032/2324

MATSYAFED
No. Mfed/Mktg/M1/914/2020 09/11/2023
E-TENDER NOTICE
Tender ID: 2023_MFED_620389_1
Matsyafed invites online bids in two bid system (Technical & Financial) for the supply of spares and maintenance work of TOYO KOGYO CAD 7.5 MM PITCH Net making machines (2 Numbers) installed at Matsyafed Net factory, Kannur. **The E-bid submission date starts at 10/11/2023. Last date for submission of e-bid is 25/11/2023 at 5.00 pm.**
Please visit **http://etenders.kerala.gov.in.** Further clarifications / corrigendum in this regard if any shall be put up only on Matsyafed Website: **www.matsyafed.in**
MANAGING DIRECTOR
KERALA STATE CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION FOR FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT LIMITED (MATSYAFED)
KAMALESWARAM, MANACAUD P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695009
Phone: 0471-2458606, 2457756, 2457172
Website: www.matsyafed.in Email: matsyafed@matsyafed.in

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER,
EASTERN CIRCLE-I, CANTONMENT ROAD, CUTTACK.
Email id :- seeccuttack@gmail.com
"e" Procurement Notice No.ACE, EC-I/26 of 2023-24 (On-line)
1. Name of Work : Improvement to Nuna Karandia Right near village Garam to Karilopatna Gherry. Bid identification No.ACE, EC-I MND 18 of 2023-24
2. Total No of Work : 1 (One) No. work
3. Tender Paper Cost (Online) (Non-refundable) : Rs.10,000.00 (Ten thousand)
4. Bid details are as follows :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Tender Cost (Rs.in Lakh) (Approx.)	EMD (On-line) (in Rs.)	Class of Contra-ctor	Period of Comple-tion	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)
Additional Chief Engineer, Eastern Circle-I, Cuttack	ACE, EC-I MND 18 of 2023-24	740	7,40,000.00	'A' & 'Special'	9 (Nine) Calendar months	22.11.2023 at 10.00 hrs.	06.12.2023 upto 17.30 hrs.	07.12.2023 at 11.30 hrs.

Other terms and conditions can be seen from the Govt. website "**www.tendersodisha.gov.in**".
All corrigendum / cancellation of tender if any, will only be uploaded in the above web site.
Additional Chief Engineer, Eastern Circle-I, Cuttack.
A-823 : OIPR-32370/11/0032/2324

EMULATING TENDULKAR

Rohit tops 500 runs for the second straight time in the World Cup

K. MURALI KUMAR

Rohit Sharma became the second Indian batter after Sachin Tendulkar to score more than 500 runs in a World Cup on multiple occasions (2019, 2023). Tendulkar achieved it in 1996 and 2003. Rohit's efforts meant that this was only the first time two Indians (Virat Kohli the other batter) made more than 500 runs in an edition.

INSWINGING MENACE

Kohli dismisses Dutch skipper Edwards, takes fifth ODI wicket

K. MURALI KUMAR

Virat Kohli removed Scott Edwards to get his fifth wicket in ODIs. His earlier victims were Alastair Cook, Craig Kieswetter, Brendon McCullum and Quinton de Kock. Four of Kohli's five ODI wickets have been wicketkeeper-batters. Kohli had earlier bowled three deliveries in the match against Bangladesh in this edition.

POWERHOUSE

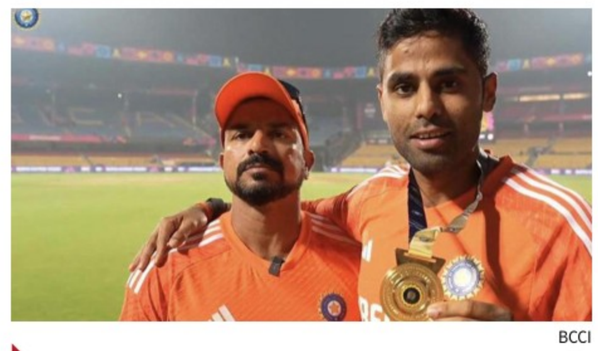
'India had batting 'Fab 5' in 2000s, now they have them with the ball'

K. MURALI KUMAR

Nasser Hussain feels that the current Indian bowling unit is the best he has ever seen and compared it to the team's Fab 5 batters (Tendulkar, Dravid, Sehwag, Ganguly and Laxman) of early 2000s. "If Bumrah does not get you, Siraj will. If Siraj does not get you, Shami will. If they don't get you, the two spinners will," Hussain said.

ONE TO CHERISH

Suryakumar wins 'Fielder of the Match' award in Netherlands game



BCCI

Suryakumar Yadav became the latest recipient of the 'Fielder of the Match' award for his efforts against the Netherlands. K.L. Rahul, Suryakumar Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja were the candidates revealed by fielding coach T. Dilip. "Dilip has been behind me for the past year finally I think this is the reward," Surya said.

Men in Blue light up Diwali with a dazzling show

India crushes the Netherlands by 160 runs after amassing 410; Shreyas and Rahul notch up tons; Kohli and Rohit pick up a wicket each as the host finishes the league phase with a 9-0 record

ODI WORLD CUP

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BENGALURU

The Diwali weekend spirit was in vogue at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium and India contributed some non-polluting fireworks. The Men in Blue lit up the skies as first up Shreyas Iyer and K.L. Rahul slammed fiery tons before the bowlers got to work with swirling kites for company.

Chasing India's 410 for four, the Netherlands struggled to stay afloat here on Sunday. The visitors mustered 250 in 47.5 overs and Rohit Sharma's men won by 160 runs.

The host finished its World Cup league engagements with nine wins on the trot and will take on New Zealand in the semifinal at Mumbai on Wednesday.

Mohammed Siraj caused the first breach, scalping Wesley Barresi. Max O'Dowd and Colin Ackermann resisted and played a few shots before the latter succumbed to Kuldeep Yadav. Ravindra Jadeja then dismissed O'Dowd, the ball homing into the stumps past a tentative bat.

Soon the crowd was on its feet when Virat Kohli got Scott Edwards to feather an edge. There was delight all around and this emotion lingered through the night even as the Netherlands stretched its innings.

In the afternoon, Rohit won the toss, elected to bat and the Netherlands immediately employed spinner Aryan Dutt.

The Indian skipper proved equal to the task and swept two fours. Seamer Logan van Beek kept it tight for a bit and Rohit and Shubman Gill sought relief by lashing at Aryan.

Gill pounded a six and when Ackermann ambled in, Rohit square-drove and lofted with elan. Paul van Meekeren then felt the heat of Gill's bat. The opener etched his 50, India got its 100 and the batter then fell to Meekeren. The stadium soon erupted with vociferous cheers as Kohli walked in.

Rohit, meanwhile, raced to his 50 and went down the route that Gill had taken, failing to get past a fielder in the deep. India was 129 for two in 17.4 overs and Kohli and Shreyas Iyer stitched a partnership. Kohli pulled Bas de Leede and the crowd began its 'RCB' chants, an obvious reference to Kohli's IPL link with the city since 2008.

Kohli's 50 had an air of inevitability and just like Gill and Rohit, he too fell while hustling the runs. Rocking back to cut Roelof van der Merwe, Kohli heard the timber rattle. Local boy Rahul stepped in while Shreyas cruised to his 50, tucking into the spinners and seamers with lovely drives and dapper pulls.

Shreyas thumped a six off van Meekeren while Rahul too joined the '50 bandwagon'. Both Shreyas (128 n.o., 94b, 10x4, 5x6) and Rahul (102, 64b, 11x4, 4x6) got to their respective tons, the former pinching a single, the latter rushing headlong into three figures with two sixes in the last over bowled by Bas de Leede.

Rahul was dismissed in the penultimate ball of the innings but by then his 208-run fourth-wicket partnership with Shreyas had set India way too high on the batting pedestal and the Netherlands was left gasping.

Up, Up, and away: Rahul and Shreyas' 208-run fourth-wicket partnership took India to a mammoth total. K. MURALI KUMAR

SCOREBOARD

INDIA
Rohit Sharma c Barresi b de Leede 61 *(54b, 8x4, 2x6)*, Shubman Gill c Nidamanuru b van Meekeren 51 *(32b, 3x4, 4x6)*, Virat Kohli b van der Merwe 51 *(56b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Shreyas Iyer (not out) 128 *(94b, 10x4, 5x6)*, K.L. Rahul c Engelbrecht b de Leede 102 *(64b, 11x4, 4x6)*, Suryakumar Yadav (not out) 2 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-1, nb-1, w-13): 15; Total (for four wkts. in 50 overs): 410.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-100 (Gill, 11.5 overs), 2-129 (Rohit, 17.4), 3-200 (Kohli, 28.4), 4-408 (Rahul, 49.5).

NETHERLANDS BOWLING
Dutt 7-0-52-0, van Beek 10-0-107-0, Ackermann 3-0-25-0, van Meekeren 10-0-90-1, van der Merwe 10-0-53-1, de Leede 10-0-82-2.

NETHERLANDS
Wesley Barresi c Rahul b Siraj 4 *(5b)*, Max O'Dowd b Jadeja 30 *(42b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Colin Ackermann lbw b Kuldeep 35 *(32b, 6x4)*, Sybrand Engelbrecht b Siraj 45 *(80b, 4x4)*, Scott Edwards c Rahul b Kohli 17 *(30b, 1x4)*, Bas de Leede b Bumrah 12 *(21b, 1x4)*, Teja Nidamanuru c Shami b Rohit 54 *(39b, 1x4, 6x6)*, Logan van Beek b Kuldeep 16 *(15b, 2x4)*, Roelof van der Merwe c Shami b Jadeja 16 *(8b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Aryan Dutt b Bumrah 5 *(11b)*, Paul van Meekeren (not out) 3 *(4b)*; Extras (lb-9, w-4): 13; Total (in 47.5 overs): 250.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-5 (Barresi, 1.3), 2-66 (Ackermann, 12.1), 3-72 (O'Dowd, 15.1), 4-111 (Edwards, 24.3), 5-144 (de Leede, 31.6), 6-172 (Engelbrecht, 37.3), 7-208 (van Beek, 42.1), 8-225 (van der Merwe, 43.4), 9-236 (Dutt, 46.1).

INDIA BOWLING
Bumrah 9-1-33-2, Siraj 6-1-29-2, Shami 6-0-41-0, Kuldeep 10-1-41-2, Jadeja 9-0-49-2, Kohli 3-0-13-1, Gill 2-0-11-0, Suryakumar 2-0-17-0, Rohit 0.5-0-7-1.

Toss: India; **PoM:** Shreyas.
India won by 160 runs.

Final points table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
India (Q)	9	9	0	18	2.570
South Africa (Q)	9	7	2	14	1.261
Australia (Q)	9	7	2	14	0.841
New Zealand (Q)	9	5	4	10	0.743
Pakistan	9	4	5	8	-0.199
Afghanistan	9	4	5	8	-0.336
England	9	3	6	6	-0.572
Bangladesh	9	2	7	4	-1.087
Sri Lanka	9	2	7	4	-1.419
Netherlands	9	2	7	4	-1.825

Q: Qualified

Fielding awards is about effort and attitude: Dilip

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BENGALURU

Through this World Cup, the behind-the-scenes videos of the fielding awards initiated within the Indian dressing room, has been a subject of widespread interest. India's fielding coach T. Dilip, the architect of this movement, spoke about the rationale behind these awards during the course of the post-match press conference at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Sunday.

Shortly after India defeated the Netherlands by 160 runs in the World Cup game, Dilip addressed the media. While he offered a guarded 'wait and watch' answer when asked about who is the latest winner of the fielding medal, he was more elaborate about other aspects linked to fielding and the team.

"We have won nine matches and we have the momentum. We defeated New Zealand at Dharamshala and we take that as a positive and as for the semifinal, we will deal with it on game-day," he said.

What about the awards and the idea behind this concept? "Basically it is about judging attitude, yes there are statistics for catches taken but we look at the overall contribution.

An innings has 300 balls, how do you handle them on the field. This is not just about one brilliant catch, it is about the overall effort.

We have been doing this for a while, atleast for the last four months, but only now it has gone on social media, and people have noticed it and it is heartening," Dilip said.

There remains a lingering worry about Mohammed Siraj, perhaps the weakest fielder in the unit, but the coach was quick to defend the speedster: "The bowlers are committed to fielding and they work hard. There is nothing specifically wrong with Siraj, he has put his body on the line often while fielding, shown good attitude and he will get better."

Catches win matches: Rahul pouched a sharp one down the leg-side off Kohli's bowling to send back Edwards. K. MURALI KUMAR

We are confident with the style we play, says Edwards

Ayan Acharya
BENGALURU

The Netherlands ended its World Cup campaign with a 160-run defeat against India.

The Dutch captain, Scott Edwards, chose to focus on the positives. "It's a little bit of a tricky one at the moment, where we want to be. We are pretty confident with the style we play. The tournament was always going to be tough," said Edwards after the match.

"India is as good a side as any going around. We will have to be a lot better going into the T20 World Cup next year. They showed pure class with the bat. They soaked up the pressure. When you are three down with 10 overs left, you are going to score some runs," Edwards said.

All-rounder Roelof van der Merwe, who took the key wicket of Kohli and hit an entertaining 16 off eight, praised the way the Netherlands conducted itself in a tournament where it beat two Full Member teams, South Africa and Bangladesh.

van Meekeren.
K. MURALI KUMAR

He also touted India as a favourite to win a third World Cup title.

"They are a very well-balanced side. Match winners all the way through, and they've shown in this World Cup thus far just how good they are. South Africa has match winners too, while Australia and New Zealand have been very consistent. That said, India does shape up well."

Rahul smashes fastest ton by an Indian in World Cup

Mayank Chaudhary
CHENNAI

K.L. Rahul recorded the fastest century (62 balls) by an Indian batter in the ODI World Cup. He broke the record held by Rohit who hit a century in 63 deliveries against Afghanistan earlier in the tournament.

Rahul also became the second Indian wicketkeeper-batter after Rahul Dravid to score a World Cup century.

India is the first team to have five of its batters score fifty runs or more in an innings in the ODI World Cup. India (16) also hit the second most sixes in an innings in ODI World Cup. The highest was 18 against Bermuda in 2007.

Rohit Sharma surpassed South Africa's A.B. de Villiers (58) with his 59th six and record the most sixes in a calendar year. He is also the first Indian captain to score 500 or more runs in a single edition.

The previous best was Sourav Ganguly's 465 in the 2003 edition. Virat Kohli (594) became the leading run-scorer of World Cup 2023.

Rohit (24) has hit the most sixes by a captain in an edition, overtaking Eoin Morgan (22 in 2019).

India (410/4) registered its second-highest ODI World Cup total. It is also the fourth-highest total in ODI cricket.

India (91/0) also registered its joint second-highest PowerPlay score in the ODI World Cups. It is also India's joint-third-highest score in the PowerPlay in all ODIs.

The hosts became the third team to use nine bowlers in an ODI World Cup innings. India (nine wins) recorded its longest streak in a single edition of the World Cup, improving its eight-match run in 2003.

Ravindra Jadeja surpassed Anil Kumble (15) with his 16th scalp, becoming the Indian spinner with most wickets in a single WC edition.

India (215) surpassed West Indies (209) to hit the most sixes by a team in a calendar year. The 160-run win over the Netherlands was India's 24th victory in 2023, equalling its 1998 tally for most wins in a year.

Logan van Beek (107 in 10 overs) conceded the third most runs in an ODI World Cup innings.

Milestone: Jadeja, with 16 wickets, surpassed Kumble to become the Indian spinner with most scalps in an edition. K. MURALI KUMAR

'The pitch will be different again'

Kiwi pacer Ferguson calls it the 'joy of cricket'; feels his team has to adapt as quickly as possible in the semifinal clash against India

In focus: The Wankhede surface has become the talking point. FILE PHOTO: EMMANUAL YOGINI

ODI WORLD CUP

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Three of the four 2023 World Cup matches at the Wankhede Stadium have seen a team batting first amass totals of 350-plus. And the only time a sub-300 score was registered, the chasing team won the game, thanks to Glenn Maxwell's brilliant innings.

With New Zealand yet to play a game at Wankhede in this edition, the 22-yard strip will certainly be in focus. It did not come as a surprise then that head coach Rahul Dravid and his two trusted lieutenants – batting coach Vikram Rathour and bowling coach Paras Mhambrey – headed straight to the Wankhede Stadium after the team checked into a south Mumbai hotel. Dravid, Rathour and Mhambrey took a long and hard look at the pitch while the rest of the squad took it easy.

Interestingly, even before the Kiwis reached the stadium for a training session, the pitch had been covered. After persisting with the ground authorities for a long time, assistant coach James Foster was allowed to inspect the pitch.

The Hindu understands that the surface for Australia's game against Afghanistan will be used for the India-New Zealand clash also. It it likely to be slow as it has been used for a match only last week.

Lockie Ferguson, the Kiwi pacer, didn't read too much into the pitch and the conditions.

"A lot of Indian grounds have been high scoring, but that's just the nature of one-day cricket in this part of the world. But from our point of view, it's trying to understand what the pitch will be like and try to read what a good score on it is because of course those big overs, 10 runs here, 10 runs there can cost you at the back-end of the innings," Ferguson said.

"From a bowling point of view, we are trying to I guess shut down those big overs, try to understand what we think is a good total on the score. The pitch will be different again, that's the joy of cricket. We play on a different pitch each time, so it's hard to read two days out. We have got to adapt as quickly as possible come Wednesday."

It will be a good challenge in the semifinal: Ferguson

Rachin rocks! Ravindra, the toast of the New Zealand team, will look to continue his merry run. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

No team has been able to take a game deep against India in the 2023 World Cup league stage. If at all a side has asked some questions of Rohit Sharma's men, they are the two trans-Tasman teams (Australia and New Zealand).

The lesser-fancied of those two has emerged as the bogey team for India in ICC tournaments, especially the knockouts, of late. No wonder, the Kiwis are hoping to build on not only the recent history but also the league game in Dharamshala three weeks ago.

"It was a hard-fought game. I thought that went extremely well, to get a great total on that. And, of course, with one-day cricket and playing against India, there is a lot of ebb and flow," said Lockie Ferguson, the New Zealand pacer, ahead of the team's first training session at the Wankhede Stadium on Monday.

While India has been unstoppable, New Zealand has had a roller-coaster ride so far in the tournament. After beginning with four wins, New Zealand lost the next four before taking the fourth spot with a convincing win against Sri Lanka even as Pakistan lost to England.

Ferguson indicated that the patchy form in the league stage will have no bearing on Wednesday. "Part of tournament cricket and certainly World Cup cricket. Every team we play here is an exceptional one and have done their homework, done their scouting... we had a couple of close games that didn't quite go away and a rain-affected one too," Ferguson said.

"That's the joy of tournament cricket and nice to bounce back in our last round.

"From our point of view, those nine games have got us to this position and we kind of all start from zero again. It will be a good challenge in the semifinal."

Pakistan bowling coach Morkel quits after WC flop

Agence France-Presse
LAHORE

Pakistan's bowling coach Morne Morkel on Monday became the first man to quit the team's backroom staff following the former champion's exit from the World Cup in India.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said the 39-year-old has tendered his resignation. "Morkel has resigned as the bowling coach of the Pakistan men's team," said a PCB release.

"He was given a six-month contract in June this year."

PCB said his replacement will be announced before the team's three-Test tour of Australia starting next month.

Enjoying the stint

Pakistan's team director Mickey Arthur said Morkel had enjoyed his brief stay in the job. "Morne was only contracted until January 2024 but his work with other leagues does not allow any more time unfortunately," said Arthur.

"He loved his time with us and is very sad that he can't continue."

Skipper Babar Azam and Arthur are also under fire for the poor show of a team which was ranked as the world's top ODI side before the tournament. This is the fifth time in the last six World Cups that Pakistan failed to reach the semifinals.

Arthur's contract as head coach was not renewed after Pakistan's failed campaign in 2019. He is back in a second spell, this time as team director.

The leaderboard

Batting	Inns	Runs	HS	Avg	SR	100s/50s
Kohli (Ind)	9	594	103*	99.00	88.52	2/5
de Kock (SA)	9	591	174	65.66	109.24	4/0
Ravindra (NZ)	9	565	123*	70.62	108.44	3/2
Rohit (Ind)	9	503	131	55.88	121.49	1/3
Warner (Aus)	9	499	163	55.44	105.49	2/2
van der Dussen (SA)	9	442	133	55.25	88.57	2/2
Marsh (Aus)	8	426	177*	60.85	109.51	2/1
Shreyas (Ind)	9	421	128*	70.16	106.58	1/3
Mitchell (NZ)	8	418	130	59.71	110.58	1/2
Malan (Eng)	9	404	140	44.88	101.00	1/2
Maxwell (Aus)	7	397	201*	79.40	152.69	2/0
Markram (SA)	9	396	106	49.50	114.45	1/3

Bowling	Inns	Wkts	BB	Avg	Econ	4W/5W
Zampa (Aus)	9	22	4/8	18.90	5.26	3/0
Madushanka (SL)	9	21	5/80	25.00	6.70	1/1
Coetzee (SA)	7	18	4/44	19.38	6.40	1/0
Afridi (Pak)	9	18	5/54	26.72	5.93	0/1
Jansen (SA)	8	17	3/31	24.41	6.41	0/0
Bumrah (Ind)	9	17	4/39	15.64	3.65	1/0
Shami (Ind)	5	16	5/18	9.56	4.78	1/2
de Leede (Ned)	8	16	4/62	30.43	7.26	1/0
Jadeja (Ind)	9	16	5/33	18.25	3.97	0/1
Santner (NZ)	9	16	5/59	24.87	4.81	0/1
Rauf (Pak)	9	16	3/43	33.31	6.74	0/0
Adil Rashid (Eng)	9	15	3/42	27.53	5.18	0/0

Sehwag, Diana Edulji and Aravinda inducted into ICC Hall of Fame

Press Trust of India
DUBAI

Former captain Diana Edulji on Monday became the first Indian woman cricketer to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame.

Legendary India opener Virender Sehwag and Sri Lankan World Cup winner Aravinda de Silva were also made members of ICC Hall of Fame for their stellar achievements during their playing career.

ICC

Aravinda de Silva

	M	Inns	Runs	HS	Avg	100s/50s	Wkts
Tests	93	159	**6361**	267	42.97	20/22	29 (58 inns)
ODIs	308	296	**9284**	145	34.9	11/64	106 (156)

Virender Sehwag

	M	Inns	Runs	HS	Avg	100s/50s	Wkts
Tests	104	180	**8586**	319	49.34	23/32	40 (91)
ODIs	251	245	**8273**	219	35.05	15/38	96 (146)
T20Is	19	18	**394**	68	21.88	0/2	0 (1)

Diana Edulji

	M	Inns	Wkts	BBI	Avg	5W	Runs
Tests	20	35	**63**	6/64	25.77	1	404 (30)
ODIs	34	34	**46**	4/12	16.84	0	211 (30)

A destructive batter

Sehwag, one of the most destructive batters of the modern era, donned India colours between 1999 and 2013. He scored 23 Test centuries during his illustrious career – the fifth most by an India men's player. His highest score of 319 against South Africa in Chennai in 2008 is the best ever by an Indian player.

The batter from Delhi, now 45, totalled 8,273 runs for India in 50-over cricket at an average of 35.05 and his 219 against the West Indies in Indore in 2011 remains the third-highest score achieved by a male cricketer in ODI. He also had 96 wickets from the 251 ODIs he played between 1999 and 2013.

Sehwag also played a pivotal role in helping India claim its second World Cup title in 2011. "I would like to thank the ICC and the jury for inducting me with this honour," Sehwag said. "I feel extremely grateful for having spent a great part of my life doing what I loved most, 'hitting the cricket ball'," he said.

Sri Lankan icon

A key member of Sri Lanka's 1996 World Cup-winning side, de Silva is an icon in the island nation. The stylish batter scored 20 Test centuries during a 19-year international career (1984 to 2003) – the third most hundreds by any Sri Lanka men's player – and was just as adept against the white-ball with another 11 centuries coming in 50-over cricket.

"I am filled with profound gratitude as I accept the immense honour of being inducted into the Hall of Fame. This achievement is a tribute to the dedication, sacrifice, and love that have shaped my cricketing journey," said de Silva.

Jhulan's tribute to Edulji, Jayawardena salutes Aravinda

Sports Bureau

Jhulan Goswami paid tribute to Diana Edulji who has been inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame.

"It is an absolute honour for you, but also a very proud moment for women's cricket in our country and a proud moment for India as a whole. It is so well deserved, you have been a pioneer for women's cricket in our country.

Your contributions over the years have been immense. It is not too much to say that the game would not be where it is in India without all your efforts.

From a personal perspective, one of the biggest regrets of my career was that I never got to play against you. Like many young cricketers in India, I had grown up reading about you in the record books. Women's cricket in India started in Mumbai in 1971 and you were there from the start.

We would read about your exploits, how you led the team and were so important to that side. As a player, your performances for the Indian cricket team in the 1970s and 1980s were legendary.

By 1997, you had retired from international cricket, but were still playing domestically. I remember playing in a tournament against Railways, but you did not play that game. I was just so excited to get the opportunity to meet you. After the game, I asked you what you thought of my bowling and you told me about the hard work it would take to make it as an international.

Five years later, I made my debut for India, and it was fitting that you were one of the national selectors. From there, our relationship often involved you giving me advice when I was struggling, picking out what I needed to work on. Every time you made a point, it would turn out to be valid.

Mahela Jayawardena was all praise for Aravinda de Silva for being a big influence on his career, on and off the field.

"It is an honour to welcome you as the fourth Sri Lankan to be inducted to the ICC Hall of Fame though I can't help thinking that if you asked any of the three of us already there – Sanga [Kumar Sangakkara], Murali [Muttiah Muralitharan] or myself – we would all agree that it should have been you first.

We all grew up watching you and were part of a generation inspired by what you achieved. I remember the first time I met you, collecting your autograph when I was nine or 10. You were the new kid in the Sri Lankan team then but before long, you were our best batter. As young kids, we all looked at how you went about playing and tried to model our games on it.

I had coaches who told me to play a certain way but you showed the importance of adapting. Whether it was your stance or your backlift, it felt like you were consistently changing - it made it difficult to keep up!

Djokovic sinks Rune, stays top of the world

Peerless: Djokovic plants a kiss on the big prize for finishing the year as World No. 1 for a record-extending eighth time. REUTERS

Agence France-Presse
TURIN

Novak Djokovic will finish the year as World No. 1 for a record-extending eighth time after beating Holger Rune 7-6(4), 6-7(1), 6-3 in his opening Green Group match at the ATP Finals on Sunday.

The 24-time Grand Slam champion needed just one win or a defeat for young rival Carlos Alcaraz in order to secure top spot in the ATP rankings for 2023 and prevailed in a three-hour Green Group clash with spirited debutant Rune.

Djokovic, on a run of 19 straight wins, has had an age-defying year, winning three Slams to become the all-time record winner of Major titles.

The 36-year-old came into the Finals in Turin off the back of his seventh triumph at the Paris Masters, his 40th victory at a Masters 100 event.

Seventh crown beckons

Djokovic is also hunting a seventh Finals title which would take him one ahead of retired great Roger Federer.

"It means a lot. You could see that there were a lot of emotions on the court," said Djokovic.

"I could feel it, I was very eager to win the match and get that monkey off my back... Obviously a big objective, a big goal has been achieved, everything else now is a bonus."

Home hope Jannik Sinner got off to a near-perfect start by beating Stefanos Tsitsipas in straight sets, 6-4, 6-4, delighting the crowd in Italy's northwest.

Zverev bests Alcaraz

Meanwhile in the Red Group, Alexander Zverev got off to a winning start by battling back from a set down to beat Carlos Alcaraz 6-7(3), 6-3, 6-4.

The results:

Green Group: Jannik Sinner bt Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-4, 6-4; Novak Djokovic bt Holger Rune 7-6(4), 6-7(1), 6-3. **Doubles:** Ivan Dodig & Austin Krajicek bt Maximo Gonzalez & Andres Molteni 6-4, 6-2; Marcel Granollers & Horacio Zabellos bt Santiago Gonzalez & Edouardo Roder-Vasselin 2-6, 6-3, 10-7.

Red Group: Alexander Zverev bt Carlos Alcaraz 6-7(3), 6-3, 6-4. **Doubles:** Wesley Koolhof & Neal Skupski bt Rinky Hijikata bt Jason Kubler 6-3, 6-4.

INBRIEF

Momota wins first title in two years at Korea Masters

Former World No.1 Kento Momota won his first badminton title in two years on Sunday with a 21-16, 21-15 victory over Japanese compatriot Koki Watanabe at the Korea Masters. Momota's career has been in freefall ever since a car crash in January 2020 in Malaysia. His last title before Sunday was in Indonesia in November 2021. Korean top seed Kim Ga-eun defeated Japan's Miyazaki Tomoka 19-21, 21-17, 21-12 to take the women crown.

Ducati's Bastianini wins Malaysian MotoGP

Ducati's Enea Bastianini claimed his first race victory of the season when he won the Malaysian MotoGP ahead of Gresini's Alex Marquez on Sunday, while Jorge Martin failed to close the gap on leader Francesco Bagnaia. Pole sitter Bagnaia eventually finished third while Pramac Racing's Martin, who was second fastest in qualifying, finished a distant fourth to fall 14 points behind Bagnaia in the championship. There are two more races left this season in Qatar and Valencia.

Young Orions SC and South Western Railway reign

Young Orions SC and South Western Railway secured the men's and women's titles respectively at the State Association Cup basketball tournament which concluded in Bengaluru on Saturday.

Agniputhra gets the better of Deccan by the odd goal in five

FC Agniputhra edged out FC Deccan 3-2 in the BDFA Super Division League football in Bengaluru on Monday.

The results: HAL FC 1 (Lakpa Norbu Sherpa 30) bt Rebels FC 0; Roots FC 3 (Anirudh Mukunthan 24, 45+3, P.T. Harshad 43) bt BUFC 2 (Konthoujam Donel Singh 22, Khongombam Biswamitra Meitei 81); FC Agniputhra 3 (Lalnunzama 42, 84, D. Yukesh 86) bt FC Deccan 2 (Pratham Dangi 12, Ngairangbam Raksh Singh 90+1).

LIVE TELECAST

Tennis: ATP Finals, Sony Sports Ten 1, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4.30, 7, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Wednesday)

Eight goals and no winner in Chelsea-Man City thriller

Palmer scores a stoppage-time penalty against his old club; Lewandowski delivers for Barca

EURO LEAGUES

Reuters
LONDON

Goal No. 8: Palmer fires in a late penalty to help Chelsea share the honours with City. REUTERS

Premier League leader Manchester City and Chelsea slugged out a magnificent 4-4 draw at Stamford Bridge with former City youngster Cole Palmer levelling for the host with a stoppage-time penalty on Sunday.

City scored first when Spanish defender Marc Cucurella pulled Haaland's shirt to concede a VAR-checked penalty which the Norwegian coolly converted in the 24th minute. Five minutes later Chelsea's 39-year-old Brazilian defender Thiago Silva headed the ball into the net.

Former City forward Raheem Sterling tapped in after a Josko Gvardiol stumble in defence allowed Reece James to cross in the 37th minute.

But Chelsea's lead lasted less than 10 minutes before defender Manuel Akanji rose to head City's equaliser in first-half injury time.

Haaland bundled in his second a minute after the restart, but in the 67th minute of a breathless second half, the home side equalised through Nicolas Jackson.

Rodri's 86th-minute strike seemed to have won it for the champions only for them to concede a 94th-minute penalty that Palmer blasted home.

City, for whom Erling Haaland scored twice, once from the penalty spot, ended the weekend one point clear at the top with 28 points with Liverpool, which beat Brentford 3-0 on 27 along with Arsenal. Mohamed Salah reached another milestone for Liverpool, netting twice to reach 200 goals in English football and become the first player in the club's history to score in each of their first six home league games of a season.

In LaLiga, Robert Lewandowski scored twice as Barcelona fought back after conceding an early goal to beat lowly Alaves 2-1 on Sunday.

Top results:
Premier League: Liverpool 3 (Salah 39, 62, Jota 74) bt Brentford 0; Chelsea 4 (Silva 29, Sterling 37, Jackson 67, Palmer 90+5-pen) drew with Manchester City 4 (Haaland 25-pen, 47, Akanji 45+1, Rodri 86). **Saturday:** Bournemouth 2 (Solanke 60, 73) bt Newcastle 0.
LaLiga: Barcelona 2 (Lewandowski 53, 77-pen) bt Alaves 1 (Omorodion 1); Atletico Madrid 3 (Witsel 45+1, Griezmann 80, Lino 85) bt Villarreal 1 (Moreno 20). **Saturday:** Real Madrid 5 (Carvajal 3, Vinicius 42, 49, Rodrygo 50, 84) bt Valencia (Duro 88).
Serie A: Inter Milan 2 (Dimarco 43, Calhanoglu 48-pen) bt Frosinone 0; Lazio 0 drew with Roma 0; Napoli 0 lost to Empoli 1 (Kovalenko 90+1); **Saturday:** Juventus 2 (Bremer 60, Rugani 70) bt Cagliari 1 (Dossena 75).
Bundesliga: Saturday: Stuttgart 2 (Undav 42, Guirassy 83-pen) bt Borussia Dortmund 1 (Fuellkrug 36).

England retains six WC players in squad for Windies tour

CRICKET

Press Trust of India
LONDON

Buttler... stays at the helm. RITU RAJ KONWAR

England on Sunday retained six players from the World Cup squad, including skipper Jos Buttler, for the limited-overs tour of the West Indies beginning on December 3.

Defending champion England failed to qualify for the World Cup semifinals in India, having won only three of its nine league games. Its final win came against Pakistan in Kolkata on Saturday.

No Stokes

Ben Stokes, who had come out of ODI retirement to play in the World Cup, is also not part of the ODI and T20I squads for the West Indies series.

Stokes is expected to undergo a knee surgery following his arrival in England from India.

Uncapped seamers Josh Tongue and John Turners are both part of the ODI and T20I squads.

The six players who were part of England's ordinary campaign in India and are touring West Indies are Buttler, Gus Atkinson, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Sam Curran and Liam Livingstone.

After England's final game in the World Cup, Buttler said there is no need for drastic changes in the team.

England will play three ODIs and five T20Is in the Caribbean.

ODI squad: Jos Buttler (Capt.), Rehan Ahmed, Gus Atkinson, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Zak Crawley, Sam Curran, Ben Duckett, Tom Hartley, Will Jacks, Liam Livingstone, Ollie Pope, Phil Salt, Josh Tongue and John Turner.

T20I squad: Buttler (Capt.), Rehan, Moeen Ali, Atkinson, Brook, Curran, Duckett, Jacks, Livingstone, Tymal Mills, Adil Rashid, Salt, Tongue, Reece Topley, Turner and Chris Woakes.

Canada wins its maiden Billie Jean King Cup

Agence France-Presse
SEVILLE

Happy bunch: The Canadian team is joy unbound after hoisting the Billie Jean Cup. GETTY IMAGES

Canada completed a team-tennis double on Sunday as the women took the Billie Jean King Cup for the first time, winning both singles rubbers to build an unassailable lead over Italy. Canada's men are the reigning Davis Cup champion after winning their first title in Malaga last November.

Marina Stakusic, an 18-year-old, opened the final in Seville with a 7-5, 6-3 victory over Martina Trevisan, capping a stunning week for the rookie. Leylah Fernandez then beat Jasmine Paolini 6-2, 6-3, to spark jubilation from the Canadian team.

"I'm extremely happy, ecstatic," said Fernandez.

"Leylah played her role as leader and that made all the difference," said Canada's coach Nathalie Tauziat. "She prepares like a boxer, ready to enter the ring, to receive blows and to give them."

Canada, captained by Heidi El Tabakh, became the 13th nation to win the Billie Jean King Cup and the second consecutive new champion after Switzerland won in Glasgow 12 months ago.

Italy continued its 10-year drought in the competition, known as the Fed Cup until 2020, having won the last of its four titles in 2013.

Prannoy returns to action after injury layoff; Srikanth, Lakshya eye winning starts

JAPAN MASTERS

Press Trust of India
KUMAMOTO

Looking after yourself: Prannoy says managing workload correctly is critical. PTI

India's No. 1 shuttler H.S. Prannoy will make his much-anticipated return from a back injury, while Lakshya Sen will look to find his rhythm in the Japan Masters Super 500 tournament beginning here on Tuesday.

Prannoy had pulled out of the Denmark and French Open due to a back injury that troubled him during his historic bronze medal-winning performance at the Asian Games in Hangzhou last month.

The 31-year-old, his back heavily taped, had secured India's first medal in men's singles in 41 years at the Hangzhou showpiece.

Returning to action after four weeks, the World Championships bronze medallist will like to take it "slowly" as he will be up against unseeded Lee Cheuk Yui of Hong Kong.

"I am just taking it a little slowly, not rushing up on the injury side," Prannoy had said before leaving for Japan. "I would say it is pretty better than how it was during the Asian Games. I have started training also. We also have to do the workload correctly. That is the biggest challenge which I face as a player in the next few years."

If Prannoy overcomes his opponents in the first two rounds, his first big challenge could be against second-seeded Anthony Sinisuka Ginting of Indonesia in the quarterfinals.

The tournament will also offer opportunities to Lakshya Sen and K. Srikanth to earn ranking points as the Olympic qualification period has already begun on May 1 and will run until April 28 next year. The world's top-16 during the period will make the cut for Paris. While world No. 8 Prannoy finds himself safely inside the Olympic qualification bracket, Lakshya (No. 17) and Srikanth (No. 23) will look to collect more ranking points to be in the safe zone before the Paris cut-off date.

Double Olympic medallist P.V. Sindhu is seeded eighth and is the only Indian in the fray in women's singles. She will be up against unseeded Mia Blichfeldt of Denmark. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty will begin their campaign against Chinese-Taipei's Elu Ching Yao and Yang Po Han.

An emotional funeral for United and England legend Charlton

Associated Press
MANCHESTER

Trinity: The cortege of Charlton passes by the statue of Man United trio of Best, Law, and Charlton outside Old Trafford stadium. AP

Prince William headed the list of dignitaries who attended the funeral of Manchester United and England great Bobby Charlton on Monday. The future king of England attended the service at Manchester Cathedral in his role as president of the Football Association.

Charlton, who was widely regarded as the greatest English football player in history, passed away last month. He was 86.

Around 1,000 guests, including former teammates and leading sporting figures, attended his funeral, while fans paid their respects as the hearse carrying Charlton's coffin passed United's Old Trafford stadium.

Former United manager Alex Ferguson was among the representatives of United, the club Charlton played for from 1956-73, making 758 appearances. UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin and England manager Gareth Southgate also attended. The funeral cortege began at Old Trafford stadium, where it passed through a guard of honour made up of United's academy teams.

Charlton survived a plane crash in 1958 which decimated a United side that seemed destined for greatness. He then went on to help his country win the 1966 World Cup and lifted the European Cup with United two years later.

He scored 249 goals for his club and won three league titles, the FA Cup and the European Cup.

Charlton held the record as England's leading scorer with 49 goals until he was surpassed by Wayne Rooney in 2015. Harry Kane set a new benchmark this year and currently has 61 goals for his country.

Amreli justifies the top billing in Kabini Cup

BENGALURU: Mr. Rajan Aggarwal's Amreli (Srinath up) won the Kabini Cup, the main event of the races held here on Sunday (Nov 12). The winner is trained by Pradeep Annaiah.

1. SHIMSHA PLATE: CONTADOR (S. John) 1, Cinco De Mayo (S. Shareef) 2, Golden Gallery (Darshan) 3 and Perfect Halo (M. Rajesh K) 4. 1, 1-1/4 and Lnk. 1m, 14.36s. ₹23 (w), 11, 13 and 17 (p), SHP: 27, THP: 50, FP: 43, Q: 28, Trinella: 164, Exacta: 734. Favourite: Contador. Owner: M/s. Rapar's Galloping Stars LLP rep. by Mr. Rajendran. Trainer: Arjun Mangalorkar.

2. HEBBE FALLS PLATE (DIV. II): SOUTHERN POWER (Akshay K) 1, Je Ne Sais Quoi (L.A. Rozario) 2, Altamonte (Jagadeesh) 3 and Apollo Light (P. Surya) 4. 1-1/4, 1 and Nk. 1m, 26.58s. ₹23 (w), 14, 14 and 34 (p), SHP: 32, THP: 104, FP: 49, Q: 28, Trinella: 731, Exacta: 10,766. Favourite: Southern Power. Owners: Dr. K. Raghavan, Dr. Arun Raghavan & Mr. Dayanand Kachuwah. Trainer; Faraz Arshad.

3. BLACK CAVIAR PLATE: PROPHECY (S. Saqlain) 1, Crosswater (Antony) 2, Palomino (Akshay K) 3 and Super Sapphire (Suraj) 4. 2-3/4, 2-3/4 and 1/2. 1m, 06.65s. ₹28 (w), 11, 13 and 18 (p), SHP: 31, THP: 49, FP: 73, Q: 41, Trinella: 522, Exacta: 663. Favourite: Prophecy. Owners: Mr. P.J. Vazifdar, Mr. M. Rishad, Mr. Kersi H. Vachha & Mr. Mukul A. Sonawala & M/s. DT Racing & Breeding LLP Mr. Nariman Dickey Chothia. Trainer: Imtiaz Khan.

4. HOGENAKKAL FALLS PLATE: AIRCRAFT (Srinath) 1, Breeze Bluster (Darshan) 2, Pharazon (L.A. Rozario) 3 and Queen Of Kyiv (Suraj) 4. Shd, Nk and 1. 1m, 38.62s. ₹173 (w), 34, 58 and 11 (p), SHP: 212, THP: 36, FP: 3,209, Q: 1,611, Trinella: 63,438 (c/o), Exacta: 88,422 (c/o). Favourite: Queen Of Kyiv. Owner: Mr. Roopesh S. Trainer: Warren Singh.

5. ARDENT KNIGHT TROPHY: PRIME ABBESS (Antony) 1, Own Legacy (Darshan) 2, Impiana (L.A. Rozario) 3 and Anakin (Vinod Shinde) 4. 1, 1/2 and 1/2. 1m, 25.65s. ₹20 (w), 13, 21 and 30 (p), SHP: 54, THP: 64, FP: 101, Q: 79, Trinella: 1,446, Exacta: 48,240. Favourite: Prime Abbess. Owner: Mr. C. Aryama Sundaram. Trainer: Imtiaz Khan.

6. KABINI CUP: AMRELI (Srinath) 1, Inyouwebelieve (Akshay K) 2, Promise Kept (Likith Appu) 3 and Knight In Hooves (Salman Khan) 4. Not run: English Bay. 2-1/2, Nose and 4-3/4. 1m, 11.86s. ₹18 (w), 11, 14 and 19 (p), SHP: 27, THP: 64, FP: 55, Q: 24, Trinella: 275, Exacta: 1,741. Favourite: Amreli. Owner: Mr. Rajan Aggarwal. Trainer: Pradeep Annaiah.

7. HEBBE FALLS PLATE (DIV. I): MEMORABLE TIME (Vinod Shinde) 1, Ultimate Chance (S. Saqlain) 2, My Vision (Antony) 3 and Southern Dynasty (Darshan) 4. Not run: Augusto. Lnk, Lnk and 4. 1m, 27.34s. ₹83 (w), 19, 15 and 20 (p), SHP: 38, THP: 46, FP: 486, Q: 198, Trinella: 3,445, Exacta: 15,815. Favourite: Limited Edition. Owners: Mr. H.K. Lakshman Gowda & Mr. Sharath M. Narayana. Trainer: V. lokanath.

Jackpot: ₹81,413 (one tkt.); Runner-up: 697 (50 tkts.); Treble (i): 2,230 (four tkts.); (ii): 976 (13 tkts.).

India emerges the champion

The squad wins its last league match against Argentina after downing Britain, USA, Italy and South Africa earlier in the tournament; the team had topped the Asia-Oceania competition in Japan to qualify for the World Finals

ROD LAVER TENNIS

Sports Bureau

The Indian team won its last league match 4-2 against Argentina and emerged the champion of the IC Rod Laver World Junior Challenge at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club in San Diego, USA.

India won three of the four singles matches through Manas Dhamne, Rushil Khosla and Sohini Mohanty to get a firm grip on the contest. Manas, struggling with a stomach strain, partnered Rushil to wrap up the doubles match in style, blanking Juan Morresi and Ramiro Toninelli.

In Elite company: The Indian team of Sohini Mohanty, Rushil Khosla, Vikram Anand, Asmi Adkar, and Manas Dhamne with the legendary Rod Laver. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India captain Vikram Anand praised the fine performance of the players, especially the dominant show of Rushil and Sohini. The team was consistently strong and never had to play the optional mixed doubles right through its five matches. India had earlier beaten Britain, USA, Italy and South Africa.

The team had topped the Asia-Oceania competition in Japan to qualify for the World Finals. Rod Laver presented the trophy to the champion team.

The results (league): India bt Argentina 4-2 (Manas Dhamne bt Juan Morresi 6-1, 6-2; Rushil Khosla bt Ramiro Toninelli 6-2, 6-2; Asmi Adkar lost to Lespiau Beveraggi 6-1, 3-6, [3-10]; Sohini Mohanty bt Zoe Lazar 6-3, 6-4; Rushil & Manas bt Juan & Ramiro 6-0, 6-0; Asmi & Sohini lost to Lespiau & Zoe 4-6, 6-7(6).

Bhagat clinches gold at Hulic Daihatsu Japan

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Para Asian Games gold medallist shuttler Pramod Bhagat continued his good run, bagging a gold medal in the SL3 singles category at the Hulic Daihatsu Japan para badminton international tournament in Tokyo. He defeated compatriot Manoj Sarkar 21-16, 21-19 in the title clash.

In mixed doubles, Bhagat and Manisha Ramadass went down to the Chinese pair of Yang Jianyuan and Yang Qiu Xia 14-21, 21-15, 16-21 while Sukant Kadam lost to Malaysia's Mohd Amin Burhanuddin in the semifinals to secure a bronze in the singles SL4 category.

Pramod Bhagat.
X@PRAMODBHAGAT83

India's Tarun won a bronze in the same category after going down in the semifinal. Nehal Gupta and Naveen Sivakumar also secured a gold medal for India in men's doubles SL3-SL4 category beating Deep Ranjan Bisoyee and Manoj Sarkar 21-19, 18-21, 21-17 in the final. Manasi Joshi won a bronze medal in women's SL3 category, while Hardik Makkar and Ruthick Ragupathi bagged bronze in men's doubles SU5 division.

Thulasimathi Murugesan secured a silver in women's SU5 category and Manish Ramdass won the bronze. Manasi Joshi and Thulasimathi Murugesan then teamed up to win a gold medal in women's doubles SL3-SU5 category, beating the Indonesia's Leani Ratri Oktila, Khalimatus Sadiyah 21-16, 21-11 in the final.

Balaji and Begemann win third Challenger title in four weeks

TENNIS

Sports Bureau

Sumit Nagal went down fighting 3-6, 6-3, 2-6 to Corentin Moutet of France in the final of the €145,000 Challenger tennis tournament in Helsinki on Sunday. It was the fourth Challenger final for the 26-year-old Sumit this season, and he had won two titles.

In the doubles final, Sriram Balaji and Andre Begemann beat the second seeds Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashant 6-2, 7-5.

It was the third Challenger title in four weeks for the Indo-German combination. Balaji, who has reached a career-best doubles rank of 76, had also made four other doubles finals earlier in the season with different partners.

Victorious: Begemann and Balaji reigned supreme in the Helsinki Challenger. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The champion doubles team won 125 ATP points and 8,420.

Other results: €145,000 Challenger, Helsiniki (semifinals):
Sumit Nagal bt Stefano Travaglia (Ita) 6-1, 6-4.

We are well prepared for 2026 World Cup Qualifiers: Chhetri

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Talismanic India striker Sunil Chhetri believes his team is "strong" and "more prepared" than previous occasions to make it to the next round of the FIFA World Cup 2026 Qualifiers.

The 39-year-old will lead India in Round 2 of the World Cup Qualifiers and AFC Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2027 Joint Qualification campaign when it takes on Kuwait in the opening away tie on Thursday.

"I think it is just the morale of the team, or what has happened in the last 6-8 months. A lot of boys have taken their places in the team. And that is why we are probably more prepared," Chhetri told AIFF on Monday.

"Also, the World Cup Qualifiers are happening at a time when a lot of us have a decent amount of game time under our belts. All these things do matter." India will play matches against Kuwait, Qatar and Afghanistan, and the captain said the team will not be taken aback by the playing styles of their opponents.

Being clinical: Chhetri says the Indian team will need to carry over its dominance at home into away matches as well. FILE PHOTO

"We played Kuwait twice a few months back, so we have better knowledge of them. We have played Qatar at least thrice in the last three years. And we always know Afghanistan. Barring the away tie in Kuwait, we are aware of the atmosphere for the away matches against Afghanistan and Qatar," said Chhetri.

Chhetri also added that India will rely more on teamwork than individual flair to give a tough fight to its rivals.

"I think we are at the right stage. This team probably is a strong side. It's a team that has played together for some time. And a lot of youngsters are there."

Chhetri, though, said that to translate home success on foreign soil, hard work and tweaks in method would be an absolute necessity.

"At home, we have done decently well. In away games, we haven't. If we have to go to the next round and be among the 18 best teams in Asia, we have to rectify our method," Chhetri said.

India had beaten Kuwait 5-4 on penalties to clinch the ninth SAFF Championship title earlier this year but Chhetri warned that playing the side in its home could be tougher.

"Now the local fans are probably going to be hostile against us. Kuwait will be different because all teams are different when they play at home."

Department of Co-operation, Office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies
No. 1, Ali Askar Road, Bengaluru - 560 052.
Ph.: 080-26671616, M: 9480038548, 3-mail: yeshtrust1@gmail.com
No: doc/2023-24/IND0011 Dated: 10/11/2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders for Printing of ID Cards to enrolled Members of Yeshasvini Co-operative Members Health Care Scheme in Karnataka State (Through e-procurement only)

(1) Publication of Tender document through E-procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka: 10.11.2023 Published. **(2)** Date from which the tender document can be downloaded: **10.11.2023,6.00 p.m. (3)** Date of Pre bid meeting: **16.11.2023 11.00 a.m. (4)** Last date and time for submission of tenders: **27.11.2023,12.00 p.m.** (5) Opening of Technical tender bids: **28.11.2023, 2.00 p.m.**

The detailed bid document is available in the KPPP e-procurement portal. Interested bidders can download and participate in the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home.** Further, details can be obtained from the office of the Additional Registrar of Co-operative Societies, (Industry and dairy), during the office hours **from 10:00 A.M. to 17:30 P.M.**

Sd/-Additional Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Industry and dairy)

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
YERMARUS THERMAL POWER STATION
(A JOINT VENTURE COMPANY OF KPCL & BHEL)
CIN: U40101KA2009PLC049582
No. EE(MSP)/YTPS/23-24/125 Date: 10.11.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

RPCL, invites bids from reputed agencies for the following E-tenders for YTPS through e-Procurement **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Brief Details of Goods:** Procurement of **1) KPCL/2023-24/IND0630 Dtd: 10.112.2023** Pressure Switches for CHP & AHP. **2) KPCL/2023-24/IND0558/CALL-2 Dtd: 09.11.2023** Spares for Vacuum pump. **3) KPCL/2023-24/IND0495/CALL-3 Dtd: 09.11.2023** Filter Element for Mill lube oil system. **4) KPCL/2023-24/IND0515/CALL-2 Dtd: 09.11.2023** IDCT Consumables. **5) KPCL/2023-24/IND0498/CALL-2 Dtd: 09.11.2023** General valves. **6) KPCL/2023-24/IND0621 Dtd: 09.11.2023** Weld mesh, AL casing support, AL sheet and other insulation components. **7) KPCL/2023-24/IND0061/CALL-5 Dtd: 08.11.2023** Expansion joints and bellows for CWP discharge. **8) KPCL/2023-24/IND0533/CALL-2 Dtd: 08.11.2023** Gaskets, sealing and packing materials. **9) KPCL/2023-24/IND0540/CALL-2 Dtd: 08.11.2023** Fasteners for CHP. **10) KPCL/2023-24/IND0614 Dtd: 07.11.2023** Control trailing power cable. **11) KPCL/2023-24/IND0610 Dtd: 06.11.2023** SOx and NOx Analyser of Unit - 1 & 2. **12) KPCL/2023-24/IND0599 Dtd: 02.11.2023** Hydraulic system pipeline spares for CHP Equipments. Last date for Bid Submission: For Sl. No. 1, 2 & 3: **28.11.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 4 & 10: **23.11.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 5 & 11: **22.11.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 6 & 7: **16.11.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 8 & 9: **24.11.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 12: **21.11.2023, 16.00 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer (MSP),** RPCL, YTPS, Yeramarus-584134, Raichur (D). Mob: 9480682892. E-mail: eemsprpcl@gmail.com Website: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

BANGALORE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Civil Engineering Department, Central Office, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 560027.
No.BMTC/CO/CE/EE/1044-1048/2023-24 Dated:11.11.2023

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. 15-19/2023-24

Tenders are invited for the works of **(1) "Arranging 11 KV HT power supply to an extent of 4100 KVA for EV charging at BMTC Bus Depot-27, Jigani, Bangalore". -** Amount put to tender : **Rs. 173.00 Lakhs** and EMD: **Rs. 2,60,000/-. (2) "Arranging 4900 KVA HT Power Supply for Electrical Vehicle Charging Station at BMTC Depot-4 at Jayanagar, Bangalore". -** Amount put to tender : **Rs. 187.00 Lakhs** and EMD: **Rs. 2,81,000/-. (3) "Arranging 3500 KVA HT Power Supply for Electrical Vehicle Charging Station at BMTC Depot-35 at Kannalli, Bangalore". -** Amount put to tender: **Rs. 198.00 Lakhs** and EMD: **Rs. 2,97,000/-. (4) "Arranging 4500 KVA HT Power Supply for Electrical Vehicle Charging Station at BMTC Depot-9 (Depot-22) at Peenya, Bangalore". -** Amount put to tender: **Rs. 237.00 Lakhs** and EMD: **Rs. 3,56,000/-.** and **(5) "Providing Light fixtures to Tower, Ring units and Control panel board at Kempegowda Bus station, BMTC, Bangalore".** Amount put to tender: **Rs. 3.83 Lakhs** and EMD: **Rs. 10,000/-.** Participating bidders will have to upload all information, documents and rates etc in e-procurement website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only. Documents will not be accepted in person physically. (1) Last date for receipt of tenders: **21.11.2023.** Date of opening of tender: **23.11.2023.** (2) Any other information required can be obtained from the office of the Executive Engineer during working hours or through website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, BMTC.

Hon'ble Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das Inquiry Commission
3rd Floor, Public Works Department Main Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-560001.

DATE OF EXTENSION NOTIFICATION FOR SUBMISSION OF PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

HON'BLE GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA ISSUED NOTIFICATIONS RELATED TO HON'BLE JUSTICE SHRI H.N. NAGAMOHAN DAS INQUIRY COMMISSION VIDE NOTIFICATIONS NO. OE 98 PCE 2023, DATED : 25.08.2023 AND 06.10.2023

In this regard, the Hon'ble Inquiry Commission has published a Notification in this Newspaper on 17.10.2023, for submission of suggestions / objections / complaints / statements / documents to the office of the undersigned within office hours (10.00 AM to 5.30 PM) on or before 10.11.2023 in person or by Post or through e-mail.

The time limit for the above has now been extended **upto 29.11.2023** enabling for maximum participation of the public in the Inquiry process.

Sd/- Member Secretary
Hon'ble Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das Inquiry Commission
3rd Floor, Public Works Department Main Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore-560001.
Email: justicenmdasinquirycommission@gmail.com

DIPR/CP/YC/2091/2023-24